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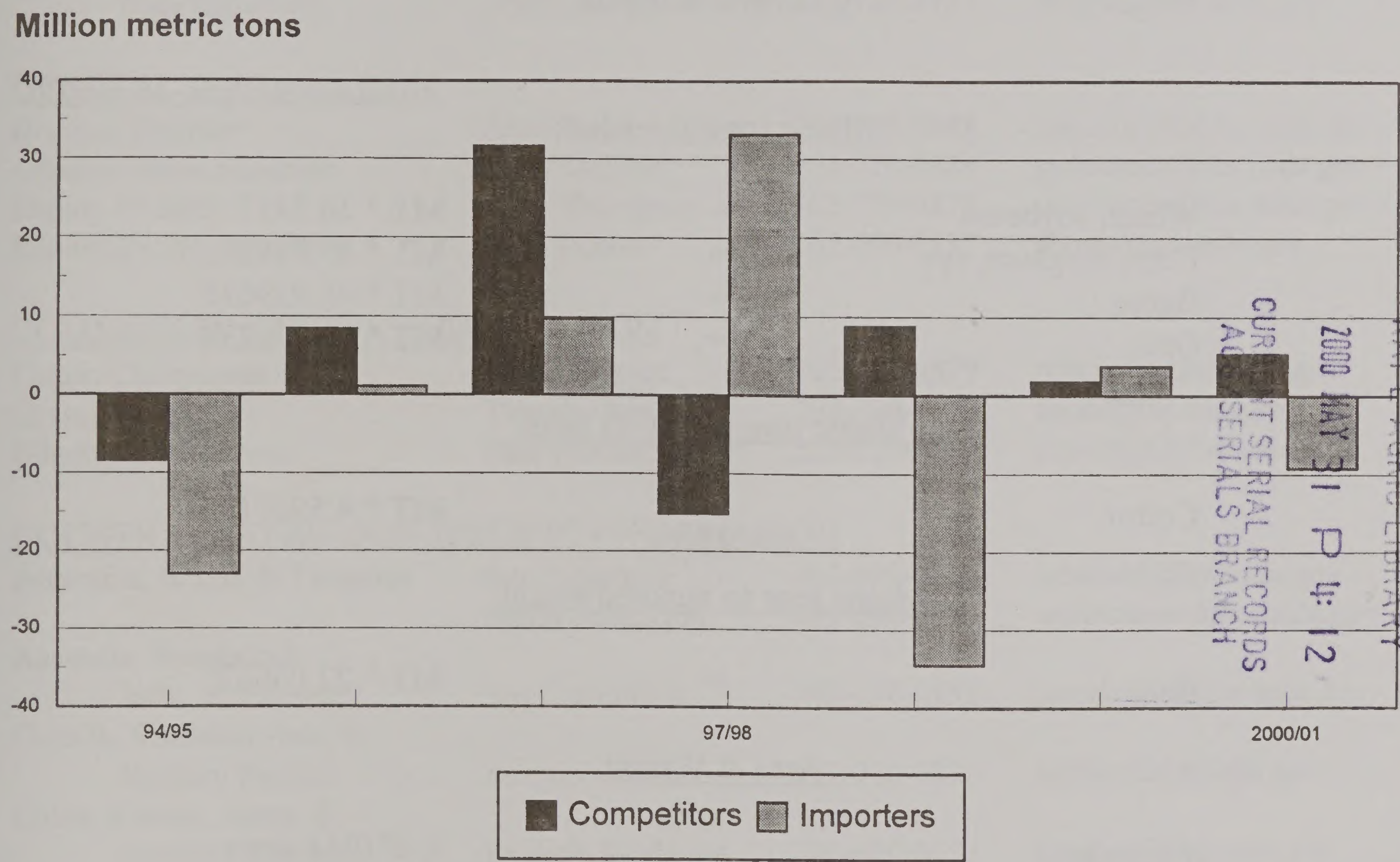
World Agricultural Production

Major Wheat Competitors' Changes in Yearly Output Continue to Climb, While Importers Decline in 2000/01



For the 2000/01 season, the major U.S. wheat competitors (European Union, Argentina, Australia, and Canada) are forecast to increase production by roughly 5 million tons due to increased area. The major importers (including China, FSU-12, Eastern Europe, Egypt, Iran, Morocco, and Brazil) are forecast to have a reduction in wheat production by about 9 million tons from the previous year due mainly to lower yield projections. Morocco and Iran are down significantly from last season's poor crop due to drought. Also, reduced area in China due to pricing policy has led to a forecast of decreased output. Although Russia and Ukraine output is forecast slightly above last season, production is still substantially below the 10-year average. For the competitors, the European Union crop is forecast at a record level due to increased area and yield. Australia and Canada are forecast down slightly from last season due to lower yield and Argentina is virtually unchanged as an increase in area offsets a decrease in yield. For the past three years, the major competitors have increased production while wheat output in the United States has decreased. As U.S. producers respond to low wheat prices by cutting area, the major competitors are continuing to expand production.

This report uses information from the Foreign Agricultural Services' global network of agricultural attaches and counselors; official statistics of foreign governments and other foreign source materials; and the results of economic and satellite imagery analysis. Estimates of foreign area, yield and production are from the Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, and are reviewed by USDA's Inter-Agency Commodity Estimates Committees. Estimates of U.S. area, yield and production are from USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Numbers within the report may not add to totals because of rounding. This report reflects official USDA estimates released in the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE-362), May 12, 2000.

This report was prepared by the Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS/USDA. The next issue of World Agricultural Production will be released after 3:00 p.m. Eastern time on June 15, 2000.

Conversion Table

Metric tons to bushels		
Wheat, soybeans	=	MT * 36.7437
Corn, sorghum, rye	=	MT * 39.36825
Barley	=	MT * 45.929625
Oats	=	MT * 68.894438
Metric tons to 480-lb bales		
Cotton	=	MT * 4.592917
Metric tons to hundredweight		
Rice	=	MT * 22.04622
Area & Weight		
1 hectare	=	2.471044 acres
1kilogram	=	2.204622 pounds

For further information, contact:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agriculture Service
Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division
Ag Box 1045, Room 6053, South Building
Washington, D.C. 20250-1045
Telephone: (202) 720-0888 Fax: (202) 720-8880

CIRCULAR PUBLICATION			
Circular Coordinator	Scott Thompson	202-720-0873	thompsons@fas.usda.gov
Word Processing	Mary Jackson	202-720-0888	jacksonma@fas.usda.gov
Database Manager	Marnet Whittington	202-720-0886	whittington@fas.usda.gov
Cover Graphics & Data Reliability	Theresa Wright	202-720-8887	wrightt@fas.usda.gov
GENERAL INFORMATION			
Division Director	Allen Vandergriff	202-720-0888	vandergriff@fas.usda.gov
Administrative Assistant	Mary Jackson	202-720-0888	jacksonma@fas.usda.gov
Deputy Director	Scott Thompson	202-720-0873	thompsons@fas.usda.gov
Remote Sensing Specialist	Brad Doorn	202-690-1157	doorn@fas.usda.gov
COMMODITY SPECIFIC INFORMATION			
Cotton Chairperson	Ron Roberson	202-720-0879	roberson@fas.usda.gov
Grain Chairperson	Timothy Rocke	202-720-1572	rocke@fas.usda.gov
Oilseeds Chairperson	Paul Provance	202-720-0881	provance@fas.usda.gov
COUNTRY AND REGION SPECIFIC INFORMATION			
Argentina, Brazil, & Paraguay	Rao Achutuni/	202-690-0140	achutuni@fas.usda.gov
	Maria Anulacion	202-690-0139	anulacionm@fas.usda.gov
Australia, Bangladesh, India, & Pakistan	Jim Crutchfield	202-690-0135	crutchfield@fas.usda.gov
Canada, Southeast Asia, & Western Europe	Suzanne Miller	202-720-0882	millers@fas.usda.gov
China, Koreas, Japan, & southern Africa	Paulette Sandene	202-690-0133	sandene@fas.usda.gov
Eastern Europe & North Africa	Bryan Purcell	202-690-0138	purcellb@fas.usda.gov
Former Soviet Union	Mark Lindeman	202-690-0143	lindeman@fas.usda.gov
Mexico & Central America	Ron White	202-690-0137	whiter@fas.usda.gov
Middle East & Central Africa	Curt Reynolds	202-690-0134	reynoldsc@fas.usda.gov
United States & Int'l Weather	Carl Gernazio	202-690-0136	gernazio@fas.usda.gov
United States & Special Projects	Bob Tetrault	202-690-0130	tetrault@fas.usda.gov

WEB SITES OF INTEREST

Foreign Agricultural Service at http://www.fas.usda.gov
FAS Weekly Weather Maps at http://www.fas.usda.gov/pecad/weather/weekly.html
National Agricultural Statistics Service at http://www.usda.nass.gov
World Agricultural Outlook Board at http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob
Economic Research Service at http://www.econ.ag.gov
Joint Agricultural Weather Facility at http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf

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Northwest Africa: Crops Reduced by Drought

Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia's 2000/01 wheat and barley crops are much reduced from last year due to drought. For Morocco and Algeria, this is the second consecutive drought year and is more severe this season. Morocco is forecast to produce only 1.2 million tons of wheat, down from 2.1 million last season. Barley is forecast at 0.6 million versus 1.4 million last season. For Algeria, wheat is forecast at 0.6 million tons and barley 0.2 million. Rains were near normal early in the season, but abruptly stopped in January. USDA field travel in Morocco revealed that many crops withered and died before heading. In Tunisia, hot humid weather late in the season caused wheat production to fall to 0.8 million tons, down from 1.4 million in 1999/2000. Barley output is reduced to only 0.1 million tons. Total wheat and barley for the three countries is forecast at 3.4 million tons, down from 7.4 million last year and a record high of 17.4 million in 1996/97.

Argentina: Corn Production Increases, Wheat Unchanged

Corn production in Argentina is forecast to increase in 2000/01 to 16.5 million tons, up 1.0 million or 6 percent from a year earlier. Area is expected to increase 3 percent to 3.2 million hectares. Dry conditions at the beginning of last season delayed planting and resulted in planted area below original intentions. Dryness also reduced yield in some growing areas. Yield for the 1999/2000 crop which is currently being harvested (53 percent as of May 4) is expected to equal the five-year average of 5.00 tons per hectare. A slightly higher yield of 5.16 tons per hectare is expected in 2000/01 assuming normal weather.

The 2000/01 wheat production is forecasted to equal last season's 15.0 million tons. Area is forecast to increase 3 percent to 6.0 million hectares. The increase of 0.2 million hectares is projected to be taken from area previously planted to oilseed crops. Reduced areas for some oilseeds are expected following a season of lower returns.

Canada: Wheat Crop Falls, Coarse Grain Up

Canada is forecast to produce 24.5 million tons of wheat in 2000/01, down 9 percent from last year's harvest. Wheat area is forecast to be up slightly at 10.5 million hectares, as a significant increase in durum wheat is expected to more than offset a decrease in spring wheat. Canadian coarse grains are expected to reach 29.6 million tons, up 10 percent from last year, while coarse grain area is forecast to rise 8 percent to 8.1 million hectares. Barley is forecast to be at its highest level in almost 20 years, and corn area is expected to be a record high. Producers are choosing barley over wheat this year because of strong malting barley prices and strong demand for animal feed from the expanding livestock sector. Corn area is forecast at a record level as result of animal feed demand.

European Union: Wheat Forecast at Record; Coarse Grain Increases

The European Union (EU) is forecast to produce a record 106.2 million tons of wheat in 2000/01, up 9 percent from last year. Wheat area is forecast to be up 6 percent from 1999/2000 at 18.1 million hectares. Yields are forecast to rise marginally due to increased planting in several of the large, higher-yielding

countries. Coarse grains are forecast to reach 106.9 million tons, up 4 percent from last year, while coarse grain area is forecast to increase slightly to 19.2 million hectares. Producers are forecast to plant grains at the expense of oilseeds this season. Oilseed plantings throughout the European Union are expected to be down in 2000/01 due to lower world prices and more attractive prospective returns for grains versus oilseeds.

Iran: Wheat Production Slashed Due to Drought

Iran's 2000/01 wheat production is forecast at 7.5 million tons, down 1.0 million or 12 percent from last season due to the second consecutive year of drought. Reservoir levels and rivers are low, thus limiting the availability of water to irrigate the crops. Normally, about 70 percent of the wheat crop is irrigated. The satellite imagery-derived Normalized Difference of Vegetative Index (NDVI), which shows the vegetation vigor (greenness), indicates that current production potential is worse than last year for most of the country.

China: Wheat and Corn Production Lower Due to Area Decline

China's corn production for 2000/01 is forecast at 125.0 million tons, down 3.0 million or 2 percent from last year's near-record crop. Area is estimated at 25.0 million hectares, down 0.8 million or 3 percent from a year ago. The largest area reduction is occurring in the Northeast, where lower prices and government policies have encouraged farmers to switch from corn to soybeans this year. The planting season for early corn in southern China started in March, but the majority of the crop will be planted in northern China during May and June. Moisture and temperature conditions in the Northeast are favorable for planting, and recent rainfall has eased dry conditions on the North China Plain, which has been very dry this spring. Yield is forecast at 5.00 tons per hectare, slightly higher than the 1999/2000 crop. China's 2000/01 wheat crop is forecast to drop by 7 percent to 107.0 million tons due to a large reduction in planted area and lower yield. Wheat area is projected to decline by 5 percent to 27.5 million hectares, the lowest level since 1974, in response to low prices and government policies to discourage the planting of low-quality winter wheat in southern provinces and spring wheat in the north. The largest area reductions occurred in the provinces near the Yangtze River, where farmers switched primarily to winter rapeseed. Yield is estimated at 3.89 tons per hectare, down 2 percent from last year's large crop, but higher than the 5-year average.

Planting conditions in Fall 1999 for the 2000/01 winter wheat crop were mostly favorable, with near-normal rainfall and warm temperatures. The crop entered dormancy in good condition. Although the winter was unseasonably cold, especially in late January, there were no reports of winterkill. The weather was mild in February, but the North China Plain became increasingly dry from mid-March through early May. Soil moisture levels dropped steadily and non-irrigated crops were stressed, especially in southern and western wheat areas. Recent showers have improved moisture conditions slightly on the North China Plain, but more rain is needed through May. Spring wheat planting is underway and weather conditions are normal.

Pakistan: Wheat at Record Area, But Dry Conditions Tempers Yield

Pakistan wheat production for 2000/01 is estimated at 18.0 million metric tons, down 0.7 million from last season's record 18.7 million. Area is estimated at a record 8.5 million hectares, up 0.2 million from last

procurement price for this growing season to Rs. 7,500 (about $145) per metric ton. Close to 80 percent of Pakistan's wheat is irrigated; however, prospects for a strong harvest have dimmed during the season as dry conditions persisted. Rainfall in the growing region was below normal from January to the end of March, and cool temperatures resulted in less runoff from mountain snow pack melt, reducing irrigation supplies during the critical crop pollination stage (February through mid-March). While preliminary information indicates that yield will be average to slightly below average, total production prospects are balanced by an increase in area. Harvest in Sindh began in mid-March. Punjab harvest typically begins during April, but this season's cooler temperatures may cause minor delays.

Russia and Ukraine Grain Forecast Higher, Kazakstan Lower

Russia's production of all major grains for 2000/01 is projected to increase from last year, based on slight increases in forecast area and yield. Wheat output is estimated at 33.0 million tons (up from 31.0 million last year), barley at 13.0 (10.6) million, rye at 5.5 (4.8) million, oats at 5.0 (4.4) million, and corn at 2.0 (1.1) million. Winter grains benefitted from favorable establishment and over-wintering conditions. Despite alarms expressed by agricultural officials regarding potential fuel shortages, spring planting is proceeding at a normal pace. Reports from the U.S. agricultural office in Moscow indicate that supplies of fertilizers and plant-protection chemicals are up from last year.

Ukraine's production prospects for 2000/01 are only slightly better than last season. Ukraine wheat production is forecast at 14.0 million tons, up only 0.5 million from last year, when production fell to the lowest level in nearly thirty years. Because of persistent dryness during winter-grain establishment last fall, a significant portion of the wheat required replanting, and another year of inadequate application of fertilizers and pesticides will hamper yield potential. Barley production is forecast to fall to 5.5 million tons, from 6.4 million last year, because of drops in sown area and estimated yield. Corn production is estimated to increase to 2.5 million tons from 1.7 million last year, when severe drought drove corn output to a five-year low.

Kazakstan's weather was nearly ideal for grains last year, and wheat production skyrocketed to an estimated 11.2 million tons. Output for 2000/01 is forecast at 7.0 million, with area up 3 percent to 9.0 million hectares. Yield is forecast at 0.78 tons per hectare, slightly above the average of the past five years but down sharply from last year's near-record 1.28 tons per hectare. Barley production is estimated at 1.6 million tons, down from 2.3 million last year. Estimated area is up 0.1 million hectares, to 1.8 million.

India: Wheat Area Reduced, Slows Production Growth

India wheat production for 2000/01 is estimated at 70.0 million tons, down 0.8 million from last season's record 70.8 million. Area is estimated at 26.5 million hectares, down 0.9 million from last year's record 27.4 million due to dry conditions at planting in Rajasthan and Gujarat. India's 2000/01 winter grain season has been characterized by generally good conditions, with precipitation levels generally more favorable than last year and cooler-than-average temperatures in the main producing areas. Satellite derived vegetation indexes indicate a delayed crop compared to last season as result of the cooler weather. The majority of India's wheat planting took place during the optimal planting period (mid-October to mid-December). About 80 percent of India's wheat crop receives some irrigation, with irrigation facilities concentrated in the larger producing states. Favorable

conditions in the major grain belt (irrigated), partially offset the drier conditions that have prevailed in the rain-dependent marginal growing areas of Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh.

United States and Foreign Countries: Oilseed Production to Rise

World total oilseed production for 2000/01 is forecast at 310.0 million tons, up 12.2 million or 4 percent from 1999/2000. The U.S. crop is expected to account for much of the change as output here is forecast up 9.5 million tons to 91.6 million. Meanwhile, total foreign output is forecast up 2.6 million to 218.4 million. A large supply of palm oil has depressed vegetable oil prices on the world market, but improving economic conditions in Asia have resulted in improved demand for soybean meal. Output of high oil content oilseeds, namely sunflowerseed and rapeseed, may be down in 2000/01 while soybean output may increase. Palm kernel output is likely to be up based on tree plantings in earlier years, while copra is recovering from El Nino related dryness of 1997 and 1998. Cottonseed output will likely be down based on lower cotton plantings.

World: Cotton Production Falls on Foreign Sector Output

World cotton production for 2000/01 is forecast at 86.0 million bales, down 1.3 million or 1.5 percent from 1999/2000 as the expected larger U.S. crop fails to offset a drop in foreign cotton output. Preliminary forecast suggest a 5 percent drop in foreign production to 67.0 million bales, down 3.3 million or 5 percent from 1999/2000. Foreign area is likely to fall as international prices, although rising, remain below last year's and the most recent three-year average. In addition, a return to normal yields in central and south central Asia is anticipated to reduce production there. This drop in foreign production more than offsets an estimated 12 percent rise in U.S. output to 19.0 million bales for 2000/01.

1999/2000

Brazil: Corn and Rice Production Raised Due to Favorable Weather

Brazil's 1999/2000 corn production is estimated at 33.0 million tons, up 1.0 million or 3 percent over last month and 2 percent above last year. Harvested area is at 12.5 million hectares, up 1 percent from last month. The first corn crop, which typically accounts for about 80 - 85 percent of the total production, was adversely impacted by the earlier drought in the southern states of Mato Grosso do Sul, Rio Grande do Sul, western Parana and Santa Catarina. However, the affect on total corn production is mitigated by larger area and extremely favorable weather conditions in Mato Grosso, Goias, Minas Gerais, Bahia, and the Northeast. Recent field travel by USDA's Agricultural Counselor office in Brasilia indicate a strong safrinha (second) corn crop due to an area increase in Parana and favorable weather.

Brazil's 1999/2000 rice production, on a milled basis, is estimated at 7.4 million tons, up 2 percent from last month, but 4 percent below last year's crop. The harvested area is currently estimated at 3.6 million hectares, unchanged from last month, but about 3 percent below last year's crop. The major rice producing areas in Brazil include Rio Grande do Sul (44%), North/Northeast Region (24%), Mato Grosso (10%), Santa Catarina (8%), Minas Gerais (4%), and Goias (3%). The growing season was characterized by a drought during planting and early vegetative stages in the southern states of Parana, Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul. However, much of the rice crop in the key state of Rio Grande do

Sul is irrigated and did not suffer any significant damage. Generally favorable weather conditions elsewhere in Brazil benefitted rice crop production.

Bangladesh: Rice Harvest at Record Level

The 1999/2000 rice crop is estimated at a record 21.5 million tons (milled basis), up 1.3 million from last month and up 1.7 million from last season or 8 percent above last year's bumper harvest. The harvested area forecast increased to 10.7 million hectares. Favorable weather, adequate input supplies at competitive prices and increased area contributed to this season's large production increase. All three rice crops (aus, aman, and boro) showed gains over last season. The boro (spring-harvested) crop especially benefitted from abundant winter precipitation. Both the boro and aman (winter-harvested) crops registered increased area. Weakened domestic prices have fallen below the cost of imports, while the impact of consecutive favorable rice harvests has lowered import projections.

Burma: Rice Production up Following Good Rainfall

Burma is estimated to equal the record 9.9 million tons of rice (milled basis) in 1999/2000, up 3 percent or 0.3 million tons from last month's estimate. Harvested area in Burma is unchanged from last month at 5.8 million hectares. Area has expanded throughout the 1990s because of government programs to bring fallow and virgin land into production. The increased area is mainly in the Irrawaddy, Rangoon, and Pegu divisions, and is used to grow wet season rice. Farmers on the new land are allowed to plant any crop they want during the dry season, and usually chose to plant a non-rice crop such as pulses. Both wet and dry season crops yields suffer from inferior seed quality, a shortage of inputs, and the high cost of inputs when they are available. Yields are estimated to be slightly above average based on favorable rainfall throughout the main wet season, expansion of hybrid varieties, and a government order to increase plant population per hectare.

Brazil: Favorable Rainfall Boosts Soybean Production

The 1999/2000 soybean crop is estimated at 31.0 million metric tons, up 2 percent from last month, but down 1 percent from last year's crop. Harvested area is currently estimated at 13.3 million hectares, up 3 percent from last year. As of May 5, nearly 93 percent of the crop was reported harvested, compared to the 5-year average of 96 percent. With record yields, the state of Mato Grosso has surpassed Parana this season as Brazil's leading producer of soybeans. The state of Bahia has registered a 9 percent increase in harvested area. Rainfall during the 1999/2000 growing season was extremely favorable in Mato Grosso, Goias and Bahia, significantly boosting crop yields. Collectively, these three states have more than made up for drought related production losses in Mato Grosso do Sul, Sao Paulo, Parana, Santa Catarina, and Rio Grande do Sul. Drought related production losses in Parana and Rio Grande do Sul are reported to be around a million tons.

India: Rapeseed Production Decreases Due to Drought

Indian rapeseed production for 1999/2000 is forecast to be 5.3 million tons. While this is a reduction of 0.4 million tons from last month's forecast, it remains 0.4 million increase over last year's production of 4.9 million. The 1999/2000 harvested area is estimated at 6.4 million hectares, down 0.3 million hectares from the five-year average of 6.7 million. Reduced production is a result of persistent dry

conditions in the main rapeseed regions during the October-April growing season. The states of Gujarat and Rajasthan typically account for 52% of rapeseed production and have experienced dry conditions since last fall.

Despite being heavily irrigated (Gujurat 98 percent and Rajastan 73 percent), the weak 1998/99 monsoon resulted in low irrigation supplies. Coupled with low winter rainfall, the ensuant drought conditions in the western and central growing regions have lowered both rainfed and irrigated rapeseed yield potential.

TABLE 1
U.S. Crop Acreage, Yield, and Production

COMMODITY	Planted Area			Harvested Area			Yield			Production		
	1998/99	Prel. 1999/00	Proj. 2000/01	1998/99	Prel. 1999/00	Proj. 2000/01	1998/99	Prel. 1999/00	2000/01 Proj. May	1998/99	Prel. 1999/00	2000/01 Proj. May
	--Million acres--			--Million acres--			--Bushels per acre--			--Million bushels--		
All Wheat	65.8	62.8	61.7	59.0	53.9	52.5	43.2	42.7	42.6	2,547	2,302	2,239
Winter	46.4	43.4	43.2	40.1	35.6	34.7	46.9	47.8	47.5	1,881	1,700	1,649
Other	19.4	19.4	18.5	18.9	18.3	17.8	35.2	32.9	33.1	666	602	590
Soybeans	72.0	73.8	74.9	70.4	72.5	73.9	38.9	36.5	40.0	2,741	2,643	2,955
Corn	80.2	77.4	77.9	72.6	70.5	71.1	134.4	133.8	137.0	9,759	9,437	9,740
Sorghum	9.6	9.3	9.0	7.7	8.5	8.0	67.3	69.7	69.5	520	595	556
Barley	6.3	5.2	5.7	5.9	4.8	5.3	60.0	59.2	61.0	352	282	320
Oats	4.9	4.7	4.4	2.8	2.5	2.5	60.2	59.6	59.8	166	146	148
							--Pounds per acre--			--Million CWT--		
Rice	3.3	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.6	3.4	5,669	5,908	5,935	188.1	210.5	200.0
										--Million 480-pound bales--		
All Cotton	13.4	14.9	15.6	10.7	13.4	14.4	625	607	635	13.9	17.0	19.0

May 2000 *Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA*

TABLE 2
World Crop Production Summary

Commodity	World	Total Foreign	North America			Europe			FSU-12	Asia					South America		Selected Other			All Others
			United States	Canada	Mexico	Europe Union	Oth. W. Europe	Eastern Europe		China	India	Indo-nesia	Paki-stan	Thai-land	Argen-tina	Brazil	Aus-tralia	South Africa	Turkey	
	---Million metric tons---																			
Wheat																				
1998/99	589.2	519.9	69.3	24.1	3.2	103.1	0.9	33.8	55.8	109.7	66.4	0.0	18.7	0.0	12.2	2.2	22.1	1.7	18.5	47.4
1999/00 prel.	587.0	524.4	62.7	26.9	3.1	96.9	0.9	28.6	64.9	115.0	70.8	0.0	17.9	0.0	15.0	2.5	24.5	1.6	16.5	39.3
2000/01 proj.																				
May	580.4	519.5	60.9	24.5	3.3	106.1	0.9	31.4	62.9	107.0	70.0	0.0	18.0	0.0	15.0	2.2	23.0	1.9	17.5	35.7
Coarse Grains																				
1998/99	890.3	618.8	271.5	26.6	24.7	105.5	1.7	51.7	37.9	144.2	31.7	6.5	1.9	4.5	17.8	33.5	9.6	8.2	10.5	102.4
1999/00 prel.	875.0	611.6	263.4	26.8	26.0	102.9	1.7	54.5	40.9	138.6	28.5	6.2	1.8	4.0	19.9	33.9	7.7	10.4	9.8	98.1
2000/01 proj.																				
May	896.0	625.1	270.9	29.6	26.0	106.9	1.7	54.5	45.8	135.6	31.5	6.2	1.8	4.3	20.8	34.6	8.3	9.9	10.4	97.1
Rice (Milled)																				
1998/99	394.0	388.0	5.9	0.0	0.3	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.8	139.1	86.0	32.1	4.7	15.2	1.1	7.7	1.0	0.0	0.2	98.1
1999/00 prel.	402.5	395.8	6.6	0.0	0.3	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.8	141.0	86.5	32.1	5.1	15.9	0.6	7.4	0.8	0	0.2	103.4
2000/01 proj.																				
May	400.3	394.0	6.3																	
Total Grains 1/																				
1998/99	1,873.4	1,526.7	346.7	50.6	28.2	210.4	2.6	85.6	94.5	393.0	184.0	38.6	25.3	19.7	31.0	43.4	32.7	9.9	29.2	247.9
1999/00 prel.	1,864.5	1,531.8	332.7	53.6	29.4	201.6	2.6	83.1	106.6	394.6	185.8	38.3	24.8	19.9	35.5	43.8	33.0	12.0	26.5	240.8
2000/01 proj.																				
Apr.																				
May	1876.7	1,538.6	338.1																	
Oilseeds 2/																				
1997/98	287.8	204.7	83.1	9.2	0.7	15.0	0.1	4.2	9.0	43.4	24.3	2.3	3.7	0.5	26.2	33.4	2.0	0.9	2.0	28.0
1998/99 prel.	294.7	210.3	84.4	10.5	0.6	15.2	0.1	5.3	9.0	44.4	25.0	2.3	3.7	0.5	27.7	32.3	3.1	1.5	2.0	27.2
1999/00 proj.																				
Apr.	297.5	215.5	82.1	11.7	0.5	16.6	0.1	6.2	11.0	44.6	23.4	2.3	4.2	0.5	28.1	31.6	3.6	0.8	2.2	28.1
May	297.8	215.8	82.1	11.7	0.5	16.6	0.1	6.2	11.1	44.6	23.0	2.3	4.2	0.5	28.1	32.2	3.7	0.8	2.2	28.1
	---Million 480 pound bales---																			
Cotton																				
1997/98	91.6	72.8	18.8	0.0	1.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	7.1	21.1	12.3	0.0	7.2	0.0	1.4	1.7	3.1	0.2	3.7	11.8
1998/99 prel.	84.5	70.6	13.9	0.0	1.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	6.6	20.7	12.7	0.0	6.3	0.0	0.9	2.1	3.3	0.2	3.9	10.6
1999/00 proj.																				
Apr.	87.0	70.0	17.0	0.0	0.6	2.5	0.0	0.0	7.4	17.6	12.8	0.0	8.2	0.0	0.6	2.5	3.1	0.1	4.0	10.6
May	87.3	70.3	17.0	0.0	0.6	2.5	0.0	0.0	7.4	17.6	12.8	0.0	8.2	0.0	0.6	2.6	3.2	0.2	4.0	10.5

1/ Includes wheat, coarse grains, and rice (milled) shown above.
2/ Includes soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, rapeseed for individual countries. Copra and palm kernel are added to world totals.
Note: Entries of 0.0 indicate no reported or insignificant production.

May 2000 *Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA*

TABLE 3

Wheat Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area 1998/99	Area Prel. 1999/00	Area 2000/01 Proj. May	Yield 1998/99	Yield Prel. 1999/00	Yield 2000/01 Proj. May	Production 1998/99	Production Prel. 1999/00	Production 2000/01 Proj. May	Change in Production From last year MMT	Change in Production From last year Percent
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	225.02	216.28	216.04	2.62	2.71	2.69	589.19	587.02	580.45	-6.58	-1.12
United States	23.88	21.82	21.26	2.90	2.87	2.87	69.33	62.66	60.93	-1.73	-2.76
Total Foreign	201.14	194.46	194.78	2.58	2.70	2.67	519.86	524.36	519.52	-4.84	-0.92
Major Exporters	44.79	45.19	46.52	3.61	3.61	3.63	161.47	163.29	168.65	5.35	3.28
European Union	17.10	17.03	18.02	6.03	5.69	5.89	103.09	96.94	106.15	9.20	9.49
France	5.23	5.12	5.30	7.60	7.23	7.36	39.79	37.01	39.00	1.99	5.38
United Kingdom	2.05	1.85	2.15	7.56	8.05	8.05	15.47	14.87	17.30	2.43	16.34
Germany	2.80	2.61	2.95	7.20	7.54	7.53	20.19	19.68	22.20	2.52	12.78
Canada	10.77	10.36	10.50	2.24	2.59	2.33	24.08	26.85	24.50	-2.35	-8.75
Australia	11.58	12.00	12.00	1.91	2.04	1.92	22.11	24.50	23.00	-1.50	-6.12
Argentina	5.34	5.80	6.00	2.29	2.59	2.50	12.20	15.00	15.00	0.00	0.00
Major Importers	96.91	90.33	90.88	2.33	2.54	2.42	225.60	229.33	220.13	-9.20	-4.01
China	29.77	29.00	27.50	3.69	3.97	3.89	109.73	115.00	107.00	-8.00	-6.96
FSU-12	44.87	41.65	43.04	1.24	1.56	1.46	55.85	64.94	62.93	-2.00	-3.09
Russia	26.10	23.00	24.10	1.03	1.35	1.37	27.00	31.00	33.00	2.00	6.45
Ukraine	5.64	5.90	5.80	2.65	2.29	2.41	14.94	13.50	14.00	0.50	3.70
Kazakstan	9.10	8.73	9.00	0.52	1.28	0.78	4.70	11.20	7.00	-4.20	-37.50
Baltic States	0.56	0.53	0.54	2.71	2.50	2.62	1.52	1.32	1.40	0.08	5.98
Eastern Europe	9.57	8.27	8.90	3.54	3.46	3.53	33.84	28.62	31.40	2.78	9.72
Poland	2.63	2.58	2.60	3.62	3.50	3.46	9.54	9.05	9.00	-0.05	-0.56
Iran	6.60	6.00	6.00	1.82	1.42	1.25	12.00	8.50	7.50	-1.00	-11.76
Egypt	1.02	1.00	1.10	6.00	6.36	5.91	6.10	6.36	6.50	0.14	2.22
Morocco	3.09	2.70	2.50	1.42	0.78	0.48	4.38	2.10	1.20	-0.90	-42.86
Brazil	1.43	1.19	1.30	1.54	2.11	1.69	2.19	2.50	2.20	-0.30	-12.00
Other Foreign	59.45	58.94	57.38	2.23	2.24	2.28	132.79	131.74	130.74	-1.00	-0.76
India	26.70	27.40	26.50	2.49	2.58	2.64	66.35	70.78	70.00	-0.78	-1.10
Turkey	8.55	8.65	8.65	2.16	1.91	2.02	18.50	16.50	17.50	1.00	6.06
Pakistan	8.36	8.23	8.50	2.24	2.17	2.12	18.69	17.85	18.00	0.15	0.82
Mexico	0.77	0.70	0.75	4.21	4.43	4.40	3.24	3.10	3.30	0.20	6.45
Saudi Arabia	0.34	0.34	0.34	5.37	5.37	5.37	1.80	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00
South Africa	0.75	0.72	0.85	2.27	2.17	2.24	1.70	1.56	1.90	0.34	21.72
Others	14.00	12.91	11.80	1.61	1.56	1.55	22.51	20.14	18.24	-1.90	-9.44

TABLE 4

Total Coarse Grain Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
	1998/99	Prel. 1999/00	2000/01 Proj. May	1998/99	Prel. 1999/00	2000/01 Proj. May	1998/99	Prel. 1999/00	2000/01 Proj. May	From last year	
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	308.24	303.12	305.13	2.89	2.89	2.94	890.28	874.96	896.01	21.05	2.41
United States	36.16	35.08	35.30	7.51	7.51	7.68	271.47	263.38	270.93	7.55	2.87
Total Foreign	272.08	268.05	269.83	2.27	2.28	2.32	618.81	611.58	625.08	13.50	2.21
Major Exporters	49.89	49.80	50.48	4.13	4.08	4.04	206.27	203.31	204.16	0.85	0.42
Canada	7.38	6.94	8.06	3.60	3.86	3.67	26.57	26.77	29.57	2.80	10.47
Argentina	3.89	4.43	4.51	4.57	4.48	4.61	17.76	19.86	20.76	0.90	4.55
Australia	4.84	3.93	4.24	1.98	1.96	1.96	9.60	7.71	8.31	0.60	7.79
South Africa	4.42	4.86	4.83	1.84	2.15	2.06	8.15	10.43	9.92	-0.51	-4.90
China	29.36	29.65	28.85	4.91	4.67	4.70	144.19	138.55	135.60	-2.95	-2.13
Major Importers	81.49	77.98	80.37	2.75	2.92	2.95	224.15	227.89	237.11	9.22	4.04
FSU-12	33.58	31.58	33.67	1.13	1.29	1.36	37.92	40.87	45.83	4.96	12.13
Russia	22.05	20.60	22.30	0.86	1.06	1.19	18.95	21.80	26.50	4.70	21.56
Ukraine	5.92	5.54	5.65	1.75	1.80	1.79	10.35	9.95	10.10	0.15	1.51
Kazakstan	2.17	2.03	2.15	0.64	1.34	0.87	1.39	2.72	1.87	-0.85	-31.12
Baltic States	1.20	1.12	1.12	2.16	1.76	1.92	2.58	1.97	2.14	0.17	8.63
European Union	20.08	19.05	19.15	5.26	5.40	5.58	105.55	102.92	106.94	4.01	3.90
Germany	4.33	4.03	4.02	5.63	6.12	6.03	24.39	24.64	24.23	-0.41	-1.68
France	3.92	3.75	3.78	7.22	7.32	7.50	28.28	27.43	28.29	0.86	3.14
Eastern Europe	16.07	15.85	15.92	3.22	3.44	3.42	51.74	54.49	54.51	0.03	0.05
Poland	6.21	6.12	6.06	2.84	2.70	2.77	17.62	16.54	16.76	0.22	1.35
Romania	3.80	3.68	3.85	2.67	3.25	3.09	10.14	11.93	11.91	-0.03	-0.21
Czech Rep.	0.74	0.69	0.68	3.69	4.09	3.82	2.74	2.84	2.60	-0.24	-8.29
Mexico	10.22	10.01	10.15	2.42	2.59	2.56	24.70	25.95	26.00	0.05	0.19
Other W. Europe	0.35	0.37	0.37	4.80	4.58	4.58	1.67	1.70	1.70	0.00	0.00
Other Foreign	140.71	140.26	138.98	1.34	1.29	1.32	188.39	180.38	183.81	3.43	1.90
Thailand	1.45	1.35	1.36	3.10	2.96	3.16	4.50	4.00	4.30	0.30	7.50
India	29.78	30.00	30.05	1.06	0.95	1.05	31.67	28.50	31.50	3.00	10.53
Brazil	12.92	13.06	13.36	2.59	2.60	2.59	33.46	33.91	34.60	0.69	2.03
Turkey	4.63	4.63	4.68	2.26	2.12	2.23	10.48	9.82	10.42	0.60	6.11
Indonesia	3.20	3.00	3.00	2.03	2.07	2.07	6.50	6.20	6.20	0.00	0.00
Philippines	2.77	2.70	2.60	1.77	1.67	1.73	4.89	4.50	4.50	0.00	0.00
Others	85.97	85.53	83.94	1.13	1.09	1.10	96.89	93.45	92.30	-1.16	-1.24

May 2000 *Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA*

TABLE 5

Corn Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area 1998/99	Area Prel. 1999/00	Area 2000/01 Proj. May	Yield 1998/99	Yield Prel. 1999/00	Yield 2000/01 Proj. May	Production 1998/99	Production Prel. 1999/00	Production 2000/01 Proj. May	Change in Production From last year MMT	Change in Production From last year Percent
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	139.06	140.08	141.04	4.36	4.31	4.36	605.94	604.42	614.93	10.50	1.74
United States	29.38	28.55	28.77	8.44	8.40	8.60	247.88	239.72	247.41	7.69	3.21
Total Foreign	109.68	111.53	112.27	3.26	3.27	3.27	358.06	364.71	367.52	2.82	0.77
Major Exporters	31.34	32.80	32.10	4.92	4.68	4.70	154.15	153.50	151.00	-2.50	-1.63
Argentina	2.61	3.10	3.20	5.18	5.00	5.16	13.50	15.50	16.50	1.00	6.45
South Africa	3.49	3.90	3.90	2.21	2.56	2.44	7.70	10.00	9.50	-0.50	-5.00
China	25.24	25.80	25.00	5.27	4.96	5.00	132.95	128.00	125.00	-3.00	-2.34
Major Importers	21.43	21.12	22.29	3.95	4.38	4.30	84.65	92.47	95.82	3.35	3.63
Eastern Europe	6.86	7.05	7.28	3.78	4.34	4.20	25.93	30.63	30.55	-0.08	-0.27
Romania	3.00	3.00	3.20	2.83	3.50	3.28	8.50	10.50	10.50	0.00	0.00
Yugoslavia	2.09	2.10	2.10	4.17	4.52	4.43	8.70	9.50	9.30	-0.20	-2.11
European Union	4.12	4.14	4.22	8.56	8.95	9.18	35.30	37.05	38.77	1.71	4.62
France	1.80	1.76	1.78	8.45	8.87	9.01	15.20	15.63	16.00	0.37	2.37
Italy	0.97	1.03	1.10	8.88	9.70	9.82	8.60	10.00	10.80	0.80	8.00
Mexico	7.90	7.70	7.80	2.25	2.47	2.44	17.79	19.00	19.00	0.00	0.00
FSU-12	2.49	2.17	2.94	2.12	2.51	2.45	5.28	5.46	7.18	1.72	31.50
Russia	0.79	0.60	1.00	1.02	1.83	2.00	0.80	1.10	2.00	0.90	81.82
Ukraine	0.91	0.70	1.00	2.53	2.43	2.50	2.30	1.70	2.50	0.80	47.06
Other W. Europe	0.02	0.03	0.03	8.41	8.80	8.80	0.19	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00
Others	0.04	0.03	0.03	4.17	4.12	4.23	0.17	0.11	0.11	0.00	2.80
Other Foreign	56.91	57.62	57.88	2.10	2.06	2.09	119.26	118.74	120.70	1.96	1.65
Thailand	1.29	1.19	1.20	3.33	3.19	3.42	4.30	3.80	4.10	0.30	7.89
Brazil	12.25	12.50	12.70	2.64	2.64	2.64	32.35	33.00	33.50	0.50	1.52
India	5.98	6.30	6.40	1.79	1.67	1.72	10.68	10.50	11.00	0.50	4.76
Canada	1.12	1.15	1.30	8.01	7.91	7.85	8.95	9.10	10.20	1.10	12.14
Indonesia	3.20	3.00	3.00	2.03	2.07	2.07	6.50	6.20	6.20	0.00	0.00
Philippines	2.77	2.70	2.60	1.77	1.67	1.73	4.89	4.50	4.50	0.00	0.00
Egypt	0.74	0.80	0.75	7.61	7.63	7.73	5.61	6.10	5.80	-0.30	-4.92
Zimbabwe	1.45	1.40	1.20	1.03	1.21	1.00	1.50	1.70	1.20	-0.50	-29.41
Others	28.12	28.58	28.73	1.58	1.53	1.54	44.48	43.84	44.20	0.36	0.82

May 2000

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 6

Barley Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area 1998/99	Area Prel. 1999/00	Area 2000/01 Proj. May	Yield 1998/99	Yield Prel. 1999/00	Yield 2000/01 Proj. May	Production 1998/99	Production Prel. 1999/00	Production 2000/01 Proj. May	Change in Production From last year MMT	Change in Production From last year Percent
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	61.02	56.23	55.68	2.24	2.27	2.38	136.79	127.89	132.45	4.56	3.57
United States	2.37	1.93	2.13	3.23	3.19	3.28	7.67	6.14	6.97	0.83	13.52
Total Foreign	58.64	54.31	53.56	2.20	2.24	2.34	129.12	121.75	125.49	3.73	3.07
European Union	11.47	10.85	10.71	4.52	4.51	4.64	51.91	48.91	49.72	0.80	1.64
Denmark	0.69	0.72	0.76	5.20	5.06	5.39	3.57	3.62	4.10	0.48	13.26
France	1.63	1.53	1.55	6.49	6.23	6.45	10.59	9.55	10.00	0.45	4.71
Germany	2.24	2.21	2.05	5.60	6.02	5.85	12.51	13.32	12.00	-1.32	-9.92
Italy	0.36	0.35	0.35	3.80	3.81	3.77	1.38	1.33	1.30	-0.03	-2.18
Spain	3.53	3.10	3.20	3.09	2.40	2.66	10.90	7.45	8.50	1.05	14.09
United Kingdom	1.26	1.18	1.10	5.28	5.59	5.91	6.63	6.58	6.50	-0.08	-1.22
FSU-12	18.14	17.07	16.70	1.09	1.25	1.36	19.68	21.37	22.67	1.30	6.08
Russia	11.28	10.50	10.30	0.87	1.01	1.26	9.80	10.60	13.00	2.40	22.64
Ukraine	3.57	3.47	3.20	1.65	1.84	1.72	5.88	6.40	5.50	-0.90	-14.06
Kazakstan	1.80	1.70	1.80	0.61	1.32	0.89	1.10	2.25	1.60	-0.65	-28.89
Baltic States	0.79	0.75	0.75	2.19	1.71	1.91	1.73	1.28	1.43	0.15	11.54
Eastern Europe	3.44	3.11	3.16	3.09	3.13	3.16	10.64	9.72	9.98	0.26	2.69
Poland	1.14	1.11	1.20	3.17	3.07	3.08	3.61	3.40	3.70	0.30	8.79
Czech Rep.	0.58	0.55	0.55	3.62	4.04	3.82	2.09	2.20	2.10	-0.10	-4.55
Romania	0.55	0.40	0.40	2.25	2.50	2.50	1.24	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
Canada	4.27	4.07	5.00	2.98	3.24	3.00	12.71	13.20	15.00	1.80	13.67
Other W. Europe	0.21	0.23	0.23	4.62	4.19	4.19	0.95	0.94	0.94	0.00	0.00
Norway	0.16	0.18	0.18	3.92	3.53	3.53	0.62	0.62	0.62	0.00	0.00
Turkey	3.60	3.55	3.60	2.08	1.92	2.06	7.50	6.80	7.40	0.60	8.82
Australia	3.09	2.40	2.70	1.84	1.88	1.85	5.68	4.50	5.00	0.50	11.11
China	1.20	1.00	1.00	2.92	3.00	3.00	3.50	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00
Morocco	2.43	2.10	1.50	0.81	0.67	0.40	1.97	1.40	0.60	-0.80	-57.14
India	0.76	0.80	0.75	2.22	1.88	2.00	1.68	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00
Others	9.26	8.39	7.46	1.21	1.09	1.11	11.17	9.13	8.25	-0.88	-9.66

May 2000 *Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA*

TABLE 7

Oats Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area 1998/99	Area Prel. 1999/00	Area 2000/01 Proj. May	Yield 1998/99	Yield Prel. 1999/00	Yield 2000/01 Proj. May	Production 1998/99	Production Prel. 1999/00	Production 2000/01 Proj. May	Change in Production From last year MMT	Change in Production From last year Percent
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	15.54	14.32	14.76	1.67	1.72	1.74	26.00	24.64	25.76	1.12	4.54
United States	1.12	0.99	1.00	2.16	2.14	2.15	2.41	2.12	2.15	0.03	1.23
Total Foreign	14.42	13.33	13.76	1.64	1.69	1.72	23.59	22.52	23.61	1.09	4.85
FSU-12	6.24	5.48	5.96	0.99	1.08	1.09	6.17	5.93	6.50	0.57	9.65
Russia	5.23	4.50	5.00	0.88	0.98	1.00	4.60	4.40	5.00	0.60	13.64
Ukraine	0.55	0.53	0.55	1.42	1.43	1.45	0.78	0.76	0.80	0.04	5.26
Belarus	0.30	0.30	0.30	2.33	1.83	2.00	0.70	0.55	0.60	0.05	9.09
Baltic States	0.15	0.15	0.15	2.11	1.77	1.83	0.32	0.27	0.28	0.01	3.00
Maj. Foreign Exporters	2.78	2.54	2.63	2.24	2.19	2.15	6.22	5.55	5.65	0.10	1.84
Canada	1.59	1.40	1.50	2.49	2.60	2.47	3.96	3.64	3.70	0.06	1.62
Australia	0.95	0.83	0.85	1.99	1.69	1.76	1.88	1.40	1.50	0.10	7.14
Argentina	0.24	0.31	0.28	1.60	1.65	1.61	0.39	0.51	0.45	-0.06	-11.24
Other Foreign	5.25	5.16	5.02	2.07	2.09	2.23	10.87	10.77	11.18	0.41	3.81
China	0.55	0.50	0.50	1.18	1.20	1.20	0.65	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.00
European Union	1.97	1.92	1.83	3.13	3.18	3.57	6.15	6.11	6.54	0.43	7.06
France	0.14	0.12	0.12	4.73	4.51	4.67	0.66	0.55	0.56	0.01	1.82
Germany	0.30	0.27	0.27	4.22	5.00	5.00	1.28	1.33	1.33	-0.01	-0.67
Italy	0.14	0.14	0.15	2.00	2.42	2.47	0.28	0.35	0.37	0.02	6.94
Finland	0.39	0.39	0.39	2.52	2.54	3.33	0.98	0.99	1.30	0.31	31.31
Sweden	0.31	0.31	0.32	3.65	3.87	4.13	1.14	1.20	1.30	0.10	8.33
Eastern Europe	1.10	1.15	1.15	2.28	2.21	2.23	2.50	2.54	2.57	0.03	1.14
Czech Rep.	0.06	0.06	0.06	3.10	3.18	3.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00
Poland	0.56	0.57	0.60	2.60	2.53	2.50	1.46	1.45	1.50	0.05	3.73
Yugoslavia	0.13	0.13	0.13	1.99	2.00	2.00	0.27	0.26	0.26	0.00	0.00
Norway	0.09	0.10	0.10	4.23	4.25	4.25	0.39	0.41	0.41	0.00	0.00
Turkey	0.17	0.15	0.15	1.80	1.72	1.72	0.31	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
Others	1.37	1.35	1.29	0.64	0.64	0.63	0.88	0.86	0.81	-0.05	-5.80

TABLE 8

Rye Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
		Prel.	2000/01 Proj.		Prel.	2000/01 Proj.		Prel.	2000/01 Proj.	From last year	
	1998/99	1999/00	May	1998/99	1999/00	May	1998/99	1999/00	May		
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	10.30	10.01	10.21	1.97	1.97	2.05	20.30	19.69	20.92	1.23	6.25
United States	0.17	0.16	0.16	1.83	1.80	1.74	0.31	0.28	0.28	0.00	1.08
Total Foreign	10.13	9.86	10.05	1.97	1.97	2.05	20.00	19.41	20.64	1.23	6.32
FSU-12	5.43	5.55	5.77	1.12	1.26	1.41	6.06	6.98	8.16	1.18	16.92
Russia	3.78	4.00	4.00	0.87	1.20	1.38	3.30	4.80	5.50	0.70	14.58
Ukraine	0.70	0.62	0.70	1.64	1.44	1.43	1.14	0.90	1.00	0.10	11.11
Belarus	0.90	0.90	1.00	1.78	1.39	1.60	1.60	1.25	1.60	0.35	28.00
Baltic States	0.25	0.22	0.22	2.08	1.96	2.02	0.53	0.42	0.44	0.01	3.33
Major Exporter											
Canada	0.20	0.17	0.11	1.95	2.29	2.00	0.40	0.39	0.22	-0.17	-43.15
Other Foreign	4.24	3.93	3.95	3.07	2.96	3.00	13.00	11.63	11.83	0.20	1.72
Eastern Europe	2.53	2.44	2.38	2.48	2.33	2.37	6.28	5.68	5.65	-0.03	-0.55
Hungary	0.06	0.04	0.04	2.08	2.00	2.00	0.13	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Poland	2.29	2.24	2.20	2.47	2.31	2.36	5.66	5.18	5.20	0.02	0.37
Czech Rep.	0.07	0.06	0.04	3.63	3.64	3.75	0.26	0.20	0.15	-0.05	-25.00
European Union	1.43	1.15	1.25	4.45	4.81	4.62	6.35	5.52	5.79	0.27	4.89
Denmark	0.11	0.05	0.08	5.12	4.71	4.33	0.54	0.24	0.33	0.09	35.42
France	0.05	0.04	0.04	4.70	4.60	4.60	0.22	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00
Germany	0.94	0.75	0.80	5.10	5.78	5.63	4.78	4.32	4.50	0.18	4.19
Spain	0.12	0.12	0.15	1.73	1.78	1.50	0.21	0.22	0.23	0.01	2.74
Austria	0.06	0.06	0.06	4.29	3.88	3.88	0.24	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00
Sweden	0.04	0.02	0.02	4.60	5.42	5.42	0.16	0.13	0.13	0.00	0.00
Turkey	0.15	0.18	0.18	1.61	1.39	1.39	0.24	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
Others	0.14	0.16	0.14	1.07	1.12	1.04	0.15	0.18	0.14	-0.04	-21.67

TABLE 9

Sorghum Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
	1998/99	Prel. 1999/00	2000/01 Proj. May	1998/99	Prel. 1999/00	2000/01 Proj. May	1998/99	Prel. 1999/00	2000/01 Proj. May	From last year	
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	40.59	40.94	40.90	1.46	1.45	1.47	59.21	59.19	60.26	1.06	1.80
United States	3.13	3.46	3.24	4.23	4.37	4.36	13.21	15.12	14.12	-1.00	-6.58
Total Foreign	37.46	37.48	37.67	1.23	1.18	1.22	46.00	44.08	46.13	2.06	4.67
India	10.25	10.40	10.30	0.85	0.77	0.87	8.71	8.00	9.00	1.00	12.50
China	0.97	0.95	0.95	4.22	4.16	4.21	4.09	3.95	4.00	0.05	1.27
Mexico	1.95	2.00	2.00	3.28	3.20	3.20	6.40	6.40	6.40	0.00	0.00
Nigeria	6.60	6.60	6.60	1.11	1.14	1.09	7.30	7.50	7.20	-0.30	-4.00
Sudan	6.00	5.80	6.00	0.75	0.60	0.72	4.50	3.50	4.30	0.80	22.86
Argentina	0.74	0.74	0.75	4.38	4.46	4.40	3.22	3.30	3.30	0.00	0.00
Australia	0.68	0.56	0.55	2.47	2.50	2.55	1.66	1.40	1.40	0.00	0.00
Ethiopia	1.45	1.60	1.60	0.83	0.91	1.06	1.20	1.45	1.70	0.25	17.24
Colombia	0.06	0.06	0.06	2.92	3.00	2.83	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.00	3.03
Venezuela	0.24	0.24	0.24	1.54	1.54	1.54	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00
Egypt	0.16	0.16	0.16	4.78	4.84	4.69	0.77	0.75	0.75	0.00	0.00
Yemen	0.38	0.40	0.40	1.00	0.90	0.90	0.38	0.36	0.36	0.00	0.00
Tanzania	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.85	0.80	0.80	0.43	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00
Niger	1.50	1.50	1.50	0.47	0.40	0.40	0.70	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.00
South Africa	0.10	0.14	0.13	1.88	2.19	1.92	0.19	0.30	0.25	-0.04	-15.25
Thailand	0.16	0.16	0.16	1.25	1.25	1.25	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00
Others	5.74	5.68	5.77	1.00	0.96	0.99	5.72	5.44	5.73	0.30	5.50

TABLE 10

Rice Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield (Rough)				Production (Milled)				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	151.23	152.34	153.86	154.09	3.80	3.84	3.87	3.88	386.83	393.95	400.74	402.47	1.73	0.43	8.52	2.16
United States	1.26	1.34	1.44	1.44	6.61	6.36	6.63	6.63	5.75	5.91	6.64	6.64	0.00	0.00	0.72	12.25
Total Foreign	149.97	151.00	152.42	152.65	3.77	3.82	3.84	3.86	381.08	388.04	394.10	395.84	1.73	0.44	7.79	2.01
Major Exporters	63.05	64.43	64.44	64.44	2.90	2.94	2.98	2.98	121.48	125.96	127.75	127.75	0.00	0.00	1.79	1.42
Vietnam	7.38	7.58	7.60	7.60	3.92	4.02	4.05	4.05	19.09	20.11	20.30	20.30	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.95
Thailand	9.94	9.83	9.84	9.84	2.36	2.34	2.44	2.44	15.51	15.18	15.85	15.85	0.00	0.00	0.67	4.41
India	43.42	44.60	44.50	44.50	2.85	2.89	2.92	2.92	82.54	86.00	86.50	86.50	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.58
Pakistan	2.32	2.42	2.50	2.50	2.81	2.89	3.06	3.06	4.33	4.67	5.10	5.10	0.00	0.00	0.43	9.11
Major Importers	21.94	22.55	22.69	22.74	3.51	3.64	3.65	3.65	49.26	52.57	53.02	53.13	0.11	0.21	0.56	1.07
Indonesia	11.73	11.85	11.65	11.65	4.20	4.29	4.36	4.36	31.12	32.10	32.10	32.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Brazil	3.29	3.68	3.60	3.67	2.60	3.09	2.96	2.97	5.82	7.74	7.25	7.40	0.15	2.07	-0.34	-4.33
European Union	0.42	0.41	0.40	0.40	6.37	6.60	6.70	6.70	1.80	1.75	1.73	1.73	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-1.37
Iran	0.56	0.60	0.58	0.55	4.29	4.63	4.18	4.23	1.60	1.85	1.60	1.55	-0.05	-3.13	-0.30	-16.22
Philippines	3.50	3.63	4.00	4.00	2.85	2.83	2.98	2.98	6.49	6.67	7.75	7.75	0.00	0.00	1.08	16.12
Nigeria	1.65	1.65	1.66	1.66	1.87	1.92	2.01	2.01	1.85	1.90	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	5.26
Other Foreign	64.98	64.02	65.29	65.46	4.71	4.77	4.76	4.79	210.35	209.51	213.33	214.96	1.62	0.76	5.44	2.60
China	31.77	31.21	31.30	31.30	6.32	6.37	6.44	6.44	140.49	139.10	141.00	141.00	0.00	0.00	1.90	1.37
Burma	5.60	5.60	5.80	5.80	2.74	2.86	2.84	2.93	8.90	9.30	9.55	9.86	0.31	3.25	0.56	6.02
Bangladesh	10.26	9.69	10.50	10.70	2.76	3.07	2.89	3.02	18.86	19.85	20.25	21.53	1.28	6.32	1.68	8.44
Japan	1.95	1.80	1.79	1.79	6.42	6.22	6.41	6.41	9.12	8.15	8.35	8.35	0.00	0.00	0.20	2.40
South Korea	1.05	1.06	1.07	1.07	7.00	6.42	6.58	6.58	5.45	5.10	5.26	5.26	0.00	0.00	0.16	3.20
Egypt	0.63	0.50	0.63	0.63	8.57	8.33	8.62	8.62	3.51	2.65	3.53	3.53	0.00	0.00	0.88	33.38
Taiwan	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	5.61	5.19	5.46	5.46	1.46	1.31	1.40	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.09	6.79
FSU-12	0.44	0.44	0.47	0.47	2.63	2.76	2.67	2.67	0.75	0.78	0.82	0.82	0.00	0.00	0.04	4.98
Russia	0.15	0.15	0.17	0.17	2.19	2.84	2.62	2.62	0.22	0.27	0.29	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.02	7.41
Australia	0.14	0.15	0.13	0.13	9.44	9.14	8.61	8.61	0.95	0.99	0.80	0.80	0.00	0.00	-0.19	-19.52
Others	12.78	13.20	13.24	13.21	2.51	2.59	2.60	2.61	20.85	22.27	22.37	22.40	0.03	0.16	0.13	0.59

May 2000 *Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA*

TABLE 11

Total Oilseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World Total 1/	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	287.83	294.70	297.54	297.78	0.25	0.08	3.09	1.05
Total Foreign 1/	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	204.73	210.33	215.45	215.77	0.31	0.14	5.43	2.58
Copra	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.45	4.46	5.08	5.08	0.00	0.00	0.62	13.84
Palm Kernel	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.12	5.69	6.29	6.29	0.01	0.08	0.60	10.48
Major Oilseeds 2/	166.34	173.48	175.43	175.76	1.67	1.64	1.63	1.63	277.26	284.54	286.17	286.42	0.24	0.09	1.88	0.66
United States 2/	35.35	35.28	37.14	37.16	2.35	2.39	2.21	2.21	83.10	84.36	82.08	82.02	-0.06	-0.08	-2.35	-2.78
Foreign Oilseeds 2/	130.99	138.20	138.29	138.61	1.48	1.45	1.48	1.47	194.17	200.18	204.09	204.40	0.31	0.15	4.22	2.11
South America	27.93	29.09	28.57	28.79	2.30	2.21	2.23	2.24	64.32	64.40	63.84	64.40	0.57	0.89	0.00	0.00
Brazil	13.94	13.76	13.97	14.17	2.39	2.35	2.26	2.27	33.39	32.30	31.63	32.17	0.54	1.71	-0.13	-0.41
Argentina	11.53	13.04	12.35	12.36	2.27	2.12	2.27	2.27	26.17	27.69	28.08	28.08	0.00	0.00	0.39	1.41
Paraguay	1.47	1.43	1.36	1.36	2.18	2.26	2.01	2.02	3.20	3.23	2.72	2.73	0.01	0.37	-0.50	-15.48
China	23.75	24.25	24.01	24.01	1.83	1.83	1.86	1.86	43.41	44.37	44.61	44.61	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.55
India	30.50	32.55	30.90	30.90	0.80	0.77	0.76	0.74	24.25	24.95	23.40	23.00	-0.40	-1.71	-1.95	-7.83
European Union	6.10	6.41	6.66	6.66	2.46	2.37	2.49	2.49	14.97	15.21	16.58	16.59	0.00	0.01	1.38	9.08
France	1.96	2.06	2.29	2.30	2.86	2.75	2.88	2.86	5.62	5.66	6.57	6.57	0.00	0.00	0.91	16.08
Italy	0.75	0.79	0.57	0.57	2.47	2.07	2.39	2.39	1.84	1.64	1.36	1.36	0.00	0.00	-0.28	-17.11
Germany	0.95	1.04	1.24	1.24	3.11	3.33	3.43	3.43	2.96	3.48	4.24	4.24	0.00	0.00	0.76	21.92
Spain	1.14	1.15	1.09	1.09	1.43	1.16	0.80	0.80	1.62	1.34	0.87	0.87	0.00	0.00	-0.47	-34.91
United Kingdom	0.47	0.53	0.56	0.56	3.23	2.97	3.21	3.21	1.52	1.58	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.22	14.29
FSU-12	9.14	10.35	11.95	12.05	0.98	0.87	0.92	0.92	8.98	9.01	11.04	11.15	0.11	0.96	2.14	23.76
Russia	4.10	4.69	5.92	5.92	0.78	0.72	0.78	0.78	3.18	3.40	4.59	4.59	0.00	0.00	1.19	35.00
Ukraine	2.06	2.52	3.01	3.01	1.15	0.94	0.96	0.96	2.37	2.37	2.90	2.90	0.00	0.00	0.53	22.54
Uzbekistan	1.48	1.49	1.50	1.50	1.55	1.35	1.53	1.53	2.30	2.00	2.30	2.30	0.00	0.00	0.30	15.00
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.82	0.87	0.88	0.88	0.37	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.20
Canada	5.99	6.48	6.64	6.64	1.54	1.62	1.76	1.76	9.20	10.49	11.69	11.69	0.00	0.00	1.20	11.40
Indonesia	1.76	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.31	1.32	1.32	1.32	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	-0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.00
Pakistan	3.52	3.47	3.59	3.59	1.04	1.06	1.16	1.16	3.66	3.68	4.16	4.16	0.00	0.00	0.48	13.01
Eastern Europe	2.86	3.22	3.85	3.90	1.48	1.64	1.62	1.60	4.25	5.27	6.24	6.23	-0.01	-0.11	0.97	18.32
Poland	0.32	0.47	0.55	0.55	1.88	2.36	2.02	2.02	0.60	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Romania	0.85	0.97	1.13	1.13	1.17	1.22	1.12	1.12	0.99	1.18	1.27	1.27	0.00	0.00	0.09	7.19
Hungary	0.55	0.50	0.75	0.75	1.31	1.65	1.63	1.63	0.72	0.83	1.23	1.23	0.00	0.00	0.39	47.41
Turkey	1.31	1.34	1.33	1.33	1.50	1.53	1.65	1.65	1.97	2.05	2.21	2.21	0.00	0.00	0.16	7.82
Philippines	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.87	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mexico	0.43	0.41	0.35	0.33	1.56	1.53	1.35	1.42	0.67	0.63	0.47	0.47	0.00	0.00	-0.16	-24.88
Others	17.65	18.85	18.64	18.61	0.91	0.94	0.94	0.94	16.15	17.79	17.51	17.55	0.04	0.23	-0.23	-1.30

1/ Major oilseeds plus copra and palm kernel. 2/ Individual countries and regions include soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, and rapeseed.

TABLE 12

Soybean Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	68.86	71.43	71.52	71.74	2.29	2.23	2.16	2.16	158.02	159.33	154.66	155.14	0.49	0.32	-4.18	-2.62
United States	27.97	28.51	29.33	29.33	2.62	2.62	2.45	2.45	73.18	74.60	71.93	71.93	0.00	0.00	-2.67	-3.58
Total Foreign	40.89	42.92	42.19	42.41	2.07	1.97	1.96	1.96	84.84	84.73	82.73	83.22	0.49	0.59	-1.51	-1.78
Major Exporters	21.15	22.27	22.55	22.79	2.60	2.43	2.39	2.39	54.99	54.20	54.00	54.50	0.50	0.93	0.30	0.55
Brazil	13.00	12.90	13.10	13.30	2.50	2.43	2.33	2.33	32.50	31.30	30.50	31.00	0.50	1.64	-0.30	-0.96
Argentina	6.95	8.17	8.35	8.39	2.80	2.44	2.51	2.50	19.50	19.90	21.00	21.00	0.00	0.00	1.10	5.53
Paraguay	1.20	1.20	1.10	1.10	2.49	2.50	2.27	2.27	2.99	3.00	2.50	2.50	0.00	0.00	-0.50	-16.67
Other Foreign	19.74	20.66	19.64	19.62	1.51	1.48	1.46	1.46	29.85	30.53	28.73	28.72	-0.01	-0.04	-1.81	-5.94
China	8.35	8.50	8.18	8.18	1.76	1.78	1.75	1.75	14.73	15.15	14.29	14.29	0.00	0.00	-0.86	-5.69
India	5.60	6.35	5.80	5.80	0.96	0.94	0.90	0.90	5.35	6.00	5.20	5.20	0.00	0.00	-0.80	-13.33
Canada	1.06	0.98	1.00	1.00	2.58	2.79	2.77	2.77	2.74	2.74	2.77	2.77	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.06
Indonesia	1.09	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.20	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.31	1.30	1.30	1.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Eastern Europe	0.16	0.30	0.23	0.23	2.21	1.71	2.06	2.07	0.36	0.52	0.48	0.48	-0.01	-1.25	-0.05	-8.65
European Union	0.46	0.52	0.36	0.36	3.44	2.96	3.13	3.13	1.57	1.54	1.14	1.14	0.00	0.00	-0.40	-25.86
FSU-12	0.42	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.31	0.34	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.58
Russia	0.40	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.69	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.28	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ukraine	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.03	1.29	1.16	1.12	1.12	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.56
Mexico	0.13	0.09	0.10	0.08	1.48	1.59	1.37	1.57	0.19	0.14	0.13	0.12	-0.01	-4.62	-0.02	-13.29
Thailand	0.24	0.23	0.23	0.23	1.43	1.46	1.39	1.39	0.34	0.34	0.32	0.32	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-4.48
North Korea	0.31	0.30	0.30	0.30	1.18	1.13	1.13	1.13	0.36	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Japan	0.08	0.11	0.11	0.11	1.75	1.45	1.55	1.73	0.15	0.16	0.17	0.19	0.02	10.00	0.03	18.35
Bolivia	0.54	0.40	0.50	0.50	2.00	1.55	1.90	1.90	1.07	0.62	0.95	0.95	0.00	0.00	0.33	53.23
South Korea	0.10	0.10	0.09	0.09	1.56	1.43	1.33	1.33	0.16	0.14	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-17.14
Colombia	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	2.17	2.17	2.19	2.19	0.08	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.01	7.94
Others	1.18	1.20	1.16	1.16	0.98	0.95	0.96	0.95	1.16	1.14	1.11	1.10	-0.02	-1.44	-0.04	-3.94

TABLE 13

Cottonseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	33.68	32.83	32.14	32.09	1.04	1.01	1.05	1.05	35.06	33.13	33.60	33.63	0.03	0.09	0.49	1.49
United States	5.43	4.32	5.42	5.43	1.16	1.13	1.08	1.06	6.29	4.87	5.83	5.76	-0.06	-1.06	0.90	18.43
Total Foreign	28.26	28.51	26.72	26.66	1.02	0.99	1.04	1.05	28.77	28.27	27.77	27.86	0.09	0.33	-0.40	-1.43
China	4.49	4.46	3.75	3.75	1.84	1.82	1.84	1.84	8.28	8.10	6.90	6.90	0.00	0.00	-1.20	-14.81
FSU-12	2.47	2.50	2.47	2.47	1.24	1.13	1.27	1.27	3.07	2.83	3.14	3.14	0.00	0.00	0.31	10.97
Uzbekistan	1.48	1.49	1.50	1.50	1.55	1.35	1.53	1.53	2.30	2.00	2.30	2.30	0.00	0.00	0.30	15.00
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.82	0.87	0.88	0.88	0.37	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.20
India	8.90	9.30	8.70	8.70	0.59	0.58	0.63	0.63	5.24	5.40	5.50	5.50	0.00	0.00	0.10	1.80
Pakistan	2.96	2.92	3.00	3.00	1.06	1.07	1.19	1.19	3.12	3.13	3.57	3.57	0.00	0.00	0.44	13.91
Brazil	0.77	0.69	0.70	0.70	0.85	1.14	1.34	1.40	0.65	0.78	0.93	0.97	0.04	4.30	0.19	24.04
Turkey	0.72	0.76	0.73	0.73	1.65	1.66	1.73	1.73	1.19	1.26	1.26	1.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
African Franc Zone	2.24	2.35	2.39	2.39	0.72	0.65	0.63	0.63	1.61	1.51	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.73
Australia	0.44	0.56	0.45	0.45	2.15	1.76	2.18	2.27	0.94	0.99	0.98	1.02	0.04	4.08	0.03	3.03
Egypt	0.37	0.28	0.28	0.28	1.28	1.36	1.35	1.36	0.48	0.38	0.37	0.38	0.00	1.35	-0.00	-1.32
Argentina	0.85	0.65	0.33	0.30	0.64	0.54	0.71	0.77	0.55	0.35	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	-0.12	-34.29
Paraguay	0.20	0.14	0.18	0.18	0.60	0.71	0.63	0.69	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.12	0.01	9.09	0.02	20.00
Greece	0.39	0.41	0.43	0.43	1.44	1.39	1.52	1.52	0.56	0.57	0.66	0.66	0.00	0.00	0.08	14.31
Syria	0.25	0.27	0.24	0.24	2.78	2.50	2.67	2.67	0.70	0.68	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-4.27
Mexico	0.20	0.23	0.16	0.16	1.67	1.55	1.34	1.34	0.33	0.36	0.21	0.21	0.00	0.00	-0.14	-39.89
Colombia	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	1.31	1.35	1.13	1.13	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-8.11
Sudan	0.27	0.15	0.23	0.23	0.79	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.21	0.13	0.19	0.19	0.00	0.00	0.06	50.00
Others	2.68	2.79	2.65	2.61	0.61	0.58	0.57	0.57	1.64	1.62	1.50	1.50	-0.00	-0.13	-0.12	-7.24

TABLE 14

Peanut Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May				
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	20.47	21.62	21.51	21.52	1.35	1.38	1.33	1.33	27.53	29.92	28.69	28.70	0.01	0.02	-1.22	-4.08
United States	0.57	0.59	0.58	0.58	2.81	3.03	3.01	3.01	1.61	1.80	1.74	1.74	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-3.39
Total Foreign	19.89	21.02	20.93	20.95	1.30	1.34	1.29	1.29	25.93	28.12	26.96	26.96	0.01	0.02	-1.16	-4.13
China	3.72	4.04	4.30	4.30	2.59	2.94	2.86	2.86	9.65	11.89	12.30	12.30	0.00	0.00	0.41	3.48
India	7.20	8.10	7.80	7.80	1.05	0.92	0.73	0.73	7.58	7.45	5.70	5.70	0.00	0.00	-1.75	-23.49
Indonesia	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Senegal	0.73	0.52	0.60	0.60	0.70	1.04	1.08	1.08	0.51	0.54	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.11	20.15
Burma	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.17	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sudan	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Zaire	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Argentina	0.39	0.32	0.22	0.22	1.60	1.06	2.05	2.09	0.63	0.34	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.11	32.35
Nigeria	1.20	1.19	1.20	1.20	1.04	1.20	1.21	1.21	1.25	1.43	1.45	1.45	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.40
Vietnam	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	1.41	1.40	1.40	1.40	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Africa	0.06	0.10	0.07	0.08	1.64	1.53	1.57	1.77	0.10	0.15	0.11	0.15	0.04	31.82	0.00	0.00
Thailand	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.48	1.50	1.50	1.50	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Burkina Faso	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Brazil	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.09	1.94	1.89	1.67	1.67	0.19	0.17	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-11.76
Central African Rep.	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.97	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cameroon	0.32	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.28	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.09	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cote d'Ivoire	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.01	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mexico	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	1.49	1.41	1.40	1.44	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.01	8.00	0.00	3.05
Gambia	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.11	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	2.80	2.86	2.85	2.86	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.82	2.35	2.40	2.40	2.36	-0.04	-1.67	-0.05	-2.00

TABLE 15

Sunflowerseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May				
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	19.56	21.99	22.90	22.97	1.19	1.19	1.17	1.17	23.30	26.16	26.70	26.77	0.06	0.24	0.61	2.33
United States	1.13	1.41	1.39	1.39	1.48	1.69	1.41	1.41	1.67	2.39	1.97	1.97	0.00	0.00	-0.42	-17.68
Total Foreign	18.43	20.57	21.51	21.57	1.17	1.16	1.15	1.15	21.64	23.77	24.74	24.80	0.06	0.25	1.03	4.34
FSU-12	5.98	6.96	8.52	8.56	0.90	0.80	0.84	0.85	5.40	5.55	7.18	7.25	0.06	0.90	1.70	30.69
Russia	3.58	4.10	5.30	5.30	0.79	0.73	0.78	0.78	2.83	3.00	4.15	4.15	0.00	0.00	1.15	38.33
Ukraine	2.00	2.40	2.78	2.78	1.15	0.94	0.98	0.98	2.31	2.27	2.72	2.72	0.00	0.00	0.45	20.04
Argentina	3.33	3.91	3.45	3.45	1.65	1.82	1.86	1.86	5.50	7.10	6.40	6.40	0.00	0.00	-0.70	-9.86
European Union	2.33	2.25	2.17	2.14	1.73	1.52	1.50	1.52	4.04	3.42	3.25	3.25	0.00	0.06	-0.17	-4.85
France	0.90	0.81	0.83	0.83	2.17	2.09	2.30	2.30	1.94	1.68	1.91	1.91	0.00	0.00	0.23	13.69
Spain	0.97	0.99	0.92	0.92	1.42	1.11	0.65	0.65	1.37	1.10	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.00	-0.50	-45.31
Italy	0.30	0.31	0.26	0.26	1.67	1.31	2.01	2.01	0.51	0.41	0.52	0.52	0.00	0.00	0.11	26.23
Eastern Europe	1.92	2.03	2.37	2.42	1.20	1.34	1.30	1.27	2.30	2.73	3.08	3.08	0.00	0.10	0.35	12.70
Hungary	0.45	0.43	0.53	0.53	1.22	1.65	1.55	1.55	0.55	0.71	0.82	0.82	0.00	0.00	0.11	16.15
Romania	0.78	0.82	1.04	1.04	1.10	1.18	1.05	1.05	0.86	0.97	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.13	13.40
Yugoslavia	0.19	0.20	0.21	0.21	1.64	2.02	1.95	1.91	0.31	0.41	0.40	0.40	-0.00	-0.75	-0.01	-3.41
Bulgaria	0.45	0.50	0.50	0.54	1.11	1.00	1.20	1.09	0.50	0.50	0.60	0.59	-0.01	-2.33	0.09	17.20
Czech Rep.	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.03	2.09	2.24	2.00	2.00	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.06	0.02	52.63	0.02	52.63
China	0.72	0.72	0.80	0.80	1.64	1.29	1.63	1.63	1.18	0.93	1.30	1.30	0.00	0.00	0.37	39.78
India	2.10	2.20	2.20	2.20	0.55	0.55	0.59	0.59	1.15	1.20	1.30	1.30	0.00	0.00	0.10	8.33
Turkey	0.52	0.52	0.54	0.54	1.25	1.25	1.48	1.48	0.65	0.65	0.80	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.15	23.08
South Africa	0.51	0.83	0.39	0.39	1.10	1.33	1.17	1.17	0.56	1.10	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	-0.65	-59.09
Australia	0.09	0.17	0.12	0.12	1.07	1.25	1.13	1.13	0.10	0.21	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-35.41
Burma	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	0.80	0.86	0.84	0.83	0.83	0.91	0.89	0.89	0.67	0.79	0.75	0.74	-0.01	-0.94	-0.05	-5.97

TABLE 16

Rapeseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	23.78	25.62	27.37	27.44	1.40	1.41	1.55	1.54	33.35	36.01	42.53	42.18	-0.34	-0.81	6.18	17.15
United States	0.26	0.44	0.42	0.42	1.39	1.62	1.46	1.46	0.36	0.71	0.62	0.62	0.00	0.00	-0.09	-12.41
Total Foreign	23.52	25.18	26.94	27.02	1.40	1.40	1.56	1.54	33.00	35.30	41.91	41.56	-0.34	-0.82	6.26	17.75
India	6.70	6.60	6.40	6.40	0.74	0.74	0.89	0.83	4.94	4.90	5.70	5.30	-0.40	-7.02	0.40	8.16
China	6.48	6.53	6.98	6.98	1.48	1.27	1.41	1.41	9.58	8.30	9.82	9.82	0.00	0.00	1.52	18.31
Canada	4.88	5.43	5.56	5.56	1.31	1.41	1.58	1.58	6.39	7.64	8.80	8.80	0.00	0.00	1.16	15.11
European Union	2.81	3.13	3.59	3.60	3.07	3.05	3.16	3.15	8.64	9.53	11.35	11.35	0.00	0.00	1.82	19.11
France	0.97	1.14	1.36	1.37	3.51	3.25	3.25	3.21	3.40	3.70	4.40	4.40	0.00	0.00	0.70	18.92
Germany	0.91	1.01	1.20	1.20	3.14	3.36	3.46	3.46	2.87	3.39	4.15	4.15	0.00	0.00	0.76	22.49
United Kingdom	0.47	0.53	0.56	0.56	3.23	2.97	3.21	3.21	1.52	1.58	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.22	14.29
Denmark	0.10	0.11	0.13	0.13	2.82	3.21	3.00	3.00	0.29	0.36	0.39	0.39	0.00	0.00	0.03	8.64
Sweden	0.06	0.06	0.08	0.08	1.90	2.25	2.31	2.31	0.12	0.12	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.06	45.16
Eastern Europe	0.76	0.87	1.23	1.23	2.08	2.32	2.17	2.17	1.57	2.01	2.68	2.67	-0.00	-0.15	0.66	32.99
Poland	0.32	0.47	0.55	0.55	1.88	2.36	2.02	2.02	0.60	1.10	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Czech Rep.	0.23	0.27	0.35	0.35	2.52	2.57	2.67	2.67	0.58	0.68	0.94	0.93	-0.00	-0.43	0.25	36.91
Australia	0.69	1.27	1.75	1.75	1.26	1.39	1.34	1.34	0.86	1.76	2.35	2.35	0.00	0.00	0.59	33.45
FSU-12	0.27	0.41	0.49	0.55	0.77	0.71	0.77	0.76	0.21	0.29	0.37	0.42	0.04	10.96	0.13	43.60
Russia	0.12	0.15	0.18	0.18	0.62	0.67	0.80	0.80	0.07	0.10	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.04	40.00
Pakistan	0.35	0.34	0.33	0.33	0.81	0.86	0.85	0.85	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.28	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-3.42
Bangladesh	0.34	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.25	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	1.10	1.19	1.15	1.19	0.28	0.30	0.28	0.30	0.02	6.67	-0.00	-0.00

TABLE 17

Copra, Palm Kernel, and Palm Oil Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May				
	Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
COPRA								
World	5.45	4.46	5.08	5.08	0.00	0.00	0.62	13.84
Philippines	2.37	1.35	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.45	33.33
Indonesia	1.29	1.30	1.45	1.45	0.00	0.00	0.15	11.54
India	0.68	0.70	0.73	0.73	0.00	0.00	0.03	3.57
Mexico	0.20	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-4.25
Sri Lanka	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vietnam	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Malaysia	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.25
Others	0.62	0.62	0.62	0.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PALM KERNEL								
World	5.12	5.69	6.29	6.29	0.01	0.08	0.60	10.48
Malaysia	2.50	2.79	3.16	3.16	0.00	0.00	0.37	13.22
Indonesia	1.48	1.71	1.89	1.89	0.00	0.00	0.18	10.53
Nigeria	0.33	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cote d'Ivoire	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.56
Colombia	0.08	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.09
Thailand	0.11	0.09	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.02	25.00
Zaire	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.33
Ecuador	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.00	12.20	0.00	6.98
Others	0.49	0.51	0.53	0.53	0.00	0.00	0.02	2.94
PALM OIL								
World	17.06	19.32	21.18	21.20	0.03	0.13	1.89	9.76
Malaysia	8.51	9.76	10.80	10.80	0.00	0.00	1.04	10.68
Indonesia	5.00	5.80	6.40	6.40	0.00	0.00	0.60	10.34
Nigeria	0.65	0.74	0.76	0.76	0.00	0.00	0.02	2.70
Cote d'Ivoire	0.30	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.64
Colombia	0.42	0.49	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.04
Thailand	0.47	0.40	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.10	25.00
Zaire	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.01	7.41
Ecuador	0.23	0.25	0.28	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.03	12.24
Others	1.36	1.44	1.49	1.51	0.03	1.82	0.07	4.71

TABLE 18

Cotton Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	1997/98	1998/99	Apr.	May	MBales	Percent	MBales	Percent
	Million hectares				Kilograms per hectare				Million 480 lb. bales							
World	33.73	32.86	32.19	32.14	591	560	588	591	91.63	84.53	86.99	87.28	0.29	0.33	2.75	3.25
United States	5.43	4.32	5.42	5.43	754	701	682	680	18.79	13.92	16.95	16.97	0.01	0.09	3.05	21.91
Total Foreign	28.31	28.53	26.77	26.71	560	539	570	573	72.84	70.61	70.04	70.31	0.27	0.39	-0.30	-0.43
Major Exporters	15.78	15.43	14.48	14.46	716	697	739	744	51.85	49.38	49.12	49.39	0.28	0.56	0.01	0.02
China	4.49	4.46	3.75	3.75	1,023	1,011	1,022	1,022	21.10	20.70	17.60	17.60	0.00	0.00	-3.10	-14.98
Pakistan	2.96	2.90	3.00	3.00	528	473	595	595	7.18	6.30	8.20	8.20	0.00	0.00	1.90	30.16
Sudan	0.27	0.15	0.23	0.23	329	363	363	363	0.40	0.25	0.38	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.13	50.00
Turkey	0.72	0.76	0.73	0.73	1,101	1,107	1,178	1,178	3.65	3.85	3.95	3.95	0.00	0.00	0.10	2.60
FSU-12	2.47	2.50	2.47	2.47	626	575	655	655	7.11	6.60	7.41	7.41	0.00	0.00	0.81	12.27
Uzbekistan	1.48	1.49	1.50	1.50	768	674	769	769	5.23	4.60	5.30	5.30	0.00	0.00	0.70	15.22
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.48	0.48	0.48	411	435	481	481	0.85	0.95	1.05	1.05	0.00	0.00	0.10	10.53
Other	0.54	0.54	0.49	0.49	416	423	471	471	1.03	1.05	1.06	1.06	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.95
Egypt	0.37	0.28	0.28	0.28	892	816	831	831	1.53	1.05	1.05	1.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
African Franc Zone	2.24	2.35	2.39	2.39	420	376	369	369	4.32	4.05	4.06	4.06	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.12
Southern Hemisphere	2.25	2.04	1.65	1.62	634	703	857	907	6.56	6.58	6.48	6.75	0.28	4.25	0.17	2.60
Argentina	0.85	0.65	0.33	0.30	360	301	368	435	1.41	0.90	0.55	0.60	0.05	9.09	-0.30	-33.33
Australia	0.44	0.56	0.45	0.45	1,521	1,274	1,500	1,548	3.06	3.29	3.10	3.20	0.10	3.23	-0.09	-2.71
Brazil	0.77	0.69	0.70	0.70	497	667	783	815	1.75	2.10	2.50	2.60	0.10	4.00	0.50	23.81
Paraguay	0.20	0.14	0.18	0.18	381	451	404	435	0.35	0.29	0.33	0.35	0.03	7.69	0.06	20.69
Major Importers	0.55	0.56	0.60	0.60	918	896	952	951	2.32	2.32	2.61	2.61	-0.00	-0.11	0.29	12.61
Other Foreign	11.98	12.54	11.70	11.66	339	328	341	342	18.67	18.92	18.31	18.31	0.00	0.00	-0.60	-3.20
India	8.90	9.30	8.70	8.70	302	298	320	320	12.34	12.73	12.80	12.80	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.57
Others	3.08	3.24	3.00	2.96	448	416	401	406	6.33	6.19	5.51	5.51	0.00	0.00	-0.68	-10.95

TABLE 19

The table below presents a 19-year record of the differences between the May projection and the final estimate. Using world wheat production as an example, changes between the May projection and the final estimate have averaged 15.1 million tons (2.8 percent) and ranged from -32.5 to 29.7 million tons. The May projection has been below the final 11 times and above the final 8 times.

RELIABILITY OF PRODUCTION PROJECTIONS

COMMODITY AND REGION	PROJECTION AND FINAL ESTIMATES, 1981/82 - 1999/00 1/					
	Difference		Lowest	Highest	Below	Above
	Average	Average	Difference		Final	Final
	Percent	---Million metric tons---			Number of years 2/	
WHEAT						
World	2.8	15.1	-32.5	29.7	11	8
U.S.	5.2	3.2	-7.2	9.8	10	9
Foreign	2.9	13.5	-25.3	28.7	10	9
COARSE GRAINS 3/						
World	3.2	25.0	-31.9	75.3	8	11
U.S.	11.4	22.7	-35.9	70.3	10	9
Foreign	2.2	12.8	-27.4	28.1	5	14
RICE (Milled)						
World	2.4	7.9	-21.8	11.4	15	4
U.S.	5.9	0.3	-1.0	0.5	11	8
Foreign	2.4	7.8	-22.0	18.6	15	4
SOYBEANS						
World	NA	NA	NA	NA	'NA	NA
U.S.	7.8	4.3	-11.3	12.0	10	9
Foreign	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
		---Million 480-lb. bales---				
COTTON						
World	4.8	3.9	-13.7	11.4	11	8
U.S.	9.8	1.4	-2.8	3.1	8	11
Foreign	4.9	3.3	-12.2	10.5	11	8
UNITED STATES		*-------Million bushels-------*				
CORN	12.0	790	-1,378	2,379	7	12
SORGHUM	14.9	104	-228	171	10	9
BARLEY	9.5	38	-73	206	7	12
OATS	17.3	48	-77	231	4	15

1/ The final estimate for 1981/82-1998/99 is defined as the first November estimate following the marketing year.

2/ May not total 19 if projection was the same as the final.

3/ Includes corn, sorghum, barley, oats, rye, millet, and mixed grain.

May 2000 Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

WORLD AGRICULTURAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS

May 12, 2000

USDA/OCE - World Agricultural Outlook Board
Joint Agricultural Weather Facility

(More details are available in the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin. Subscription information may be obtained by calling (202) 720-7917.)

1 - UNITED STATES
During April, much-needed rain boosted topsoil moisture in the eastern Corn Belt, but dryness continued to intensify in western areas. Meanwhile, heavy rainfall eased or erased drought from eastern Texas to the interior Southeast, but long-term moisture deficits continued to mount across the lower Southeast. Variable amounts of rain fell on the Plains, maintaining generally favorable topsoil moisture levels in key winter wheat areas. In contrast, most of southern and western Texas remained extremely dry. Following beneficial March precipitation, dry weather returned to the Southwest. Farther west, mid-month storminess elevated monthly precipitation totals well above normal in much of California and the Northwest. The month's most significant cold snaps caused only localized damage to winter wheat, fruit-tree blooms, and emerging summer crops, affecting the central Plains on April 4, 8, and 16, and the Southeast on April 5 and 9.

2 - SOUTH AMERICA
Above-normal April and early-May rainfall caused only minor summer crop harvesting delays across most of central and northern Argentina. Above-normal rainfall eased long-term drought in Uruguay. Across southern Brazil, mostly below-normal April rainfall favored soybean harvesting. Rainfall during late April and early May boosted soil moisture for winter wheat planting across eastern Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, and Sao Paulo.

3 - EUROPE
In April, frequent rain in western Europe hampered spring grain and summer crop planting, but aided jointing to reproductive winter grains. In much of eastern Europe, unseasonably warm, dry weather reduced topsoil moisture. Soil moisture remained mostly adequate in the north following a wet winter, however, more rain was needed in parts of the south. In east-central Europe, snow melt and early-April rainfall caused flooding in Hungary.

4 - NORTHWESTERN AFRICA
In April, showers in northern Morocco eased prolonged dryness, while drought further intensified in southern Morocco and Algeria, hastening maturity in winter grains. In Tunisia, light rains in early April were followed by periodic heat and dryness, reducing crop prospects.

5 - FSU-WESTERN
In April, unseasonably mild weather and periodic dryness prevailed in Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics, promoting rapid growth of winter grains and raising soil temperatures for spring grain planting. In early May, sub-freezing temperatures as far south as Ukraine and southern Russia had little impact on jointing wheat, but may have caused some localized damage to newly emerged spring-planted crops.

6 - MIDDLE EAST AND TURKEY
Overall warm, dry weather in April hastened winter grain maturity from eastern Syria to Iran. In Turkey, beneficial spring rains continued to favor wheat development and increased long-term irrigation for summer crops such as cotton.

7 - SOUTH ASIA
Warm, dry weather during April favored drydown and harvesting of winter grains and oilseeds in the northwest. Showers maintained adequate irrigation reserves in eastern India and Bangladesh.

8 - EASTERN ASIA
In the North China Plain, mostly dry, warm April weather increased irrigation demands for winter wheat. However, early-May rainfall eased some of the dryness. In Manchuria, near-normal rainfall provided adequate topsoil moisture for spring wheat and corn planting. Below-normal April rainfall reduced moisture supplies for winter wheat and rapeseed across central China (Hubei, southern Anhui, and Jiangsu). Near- to above-normal April rainfall boosted moisture supplies for winter crops and early rice transplanting across Sichuan and southern China. Heavier showers likely caused flooding in Guangdong.

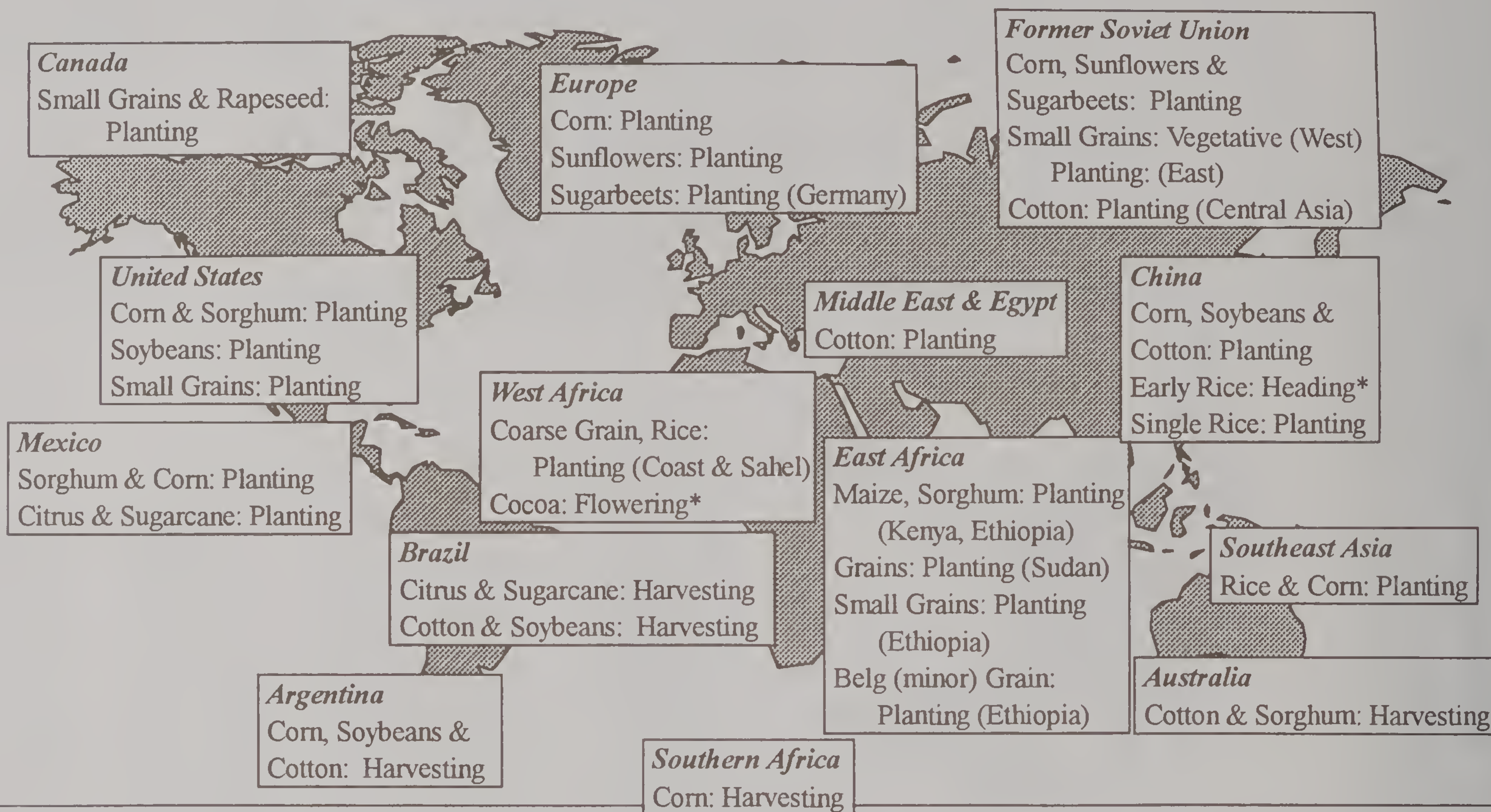
9 - SOUTHEAST ASIA
During mid-April, the rainy season began across Indochina, boosting moisture supplies for main-season rice transplanting in Thailand and winter rice development in northern Vietnam. Across Java, Indonesia, near-normal April rainfall caused only minor rice harvesting delays. Near- to above-normal April rainfall increased moisture supplies for oil palm across interior Sumatra, Java and peninsular Malaysia. Above-normal rainfall slowed second-crop grain harvesting across the central Philippines, but drier weather during early May favored fieldwork.

10 - SOUTH AFRICA
During April, periodic showers aided late summer crop development and improved planting prospects for winter wheat.

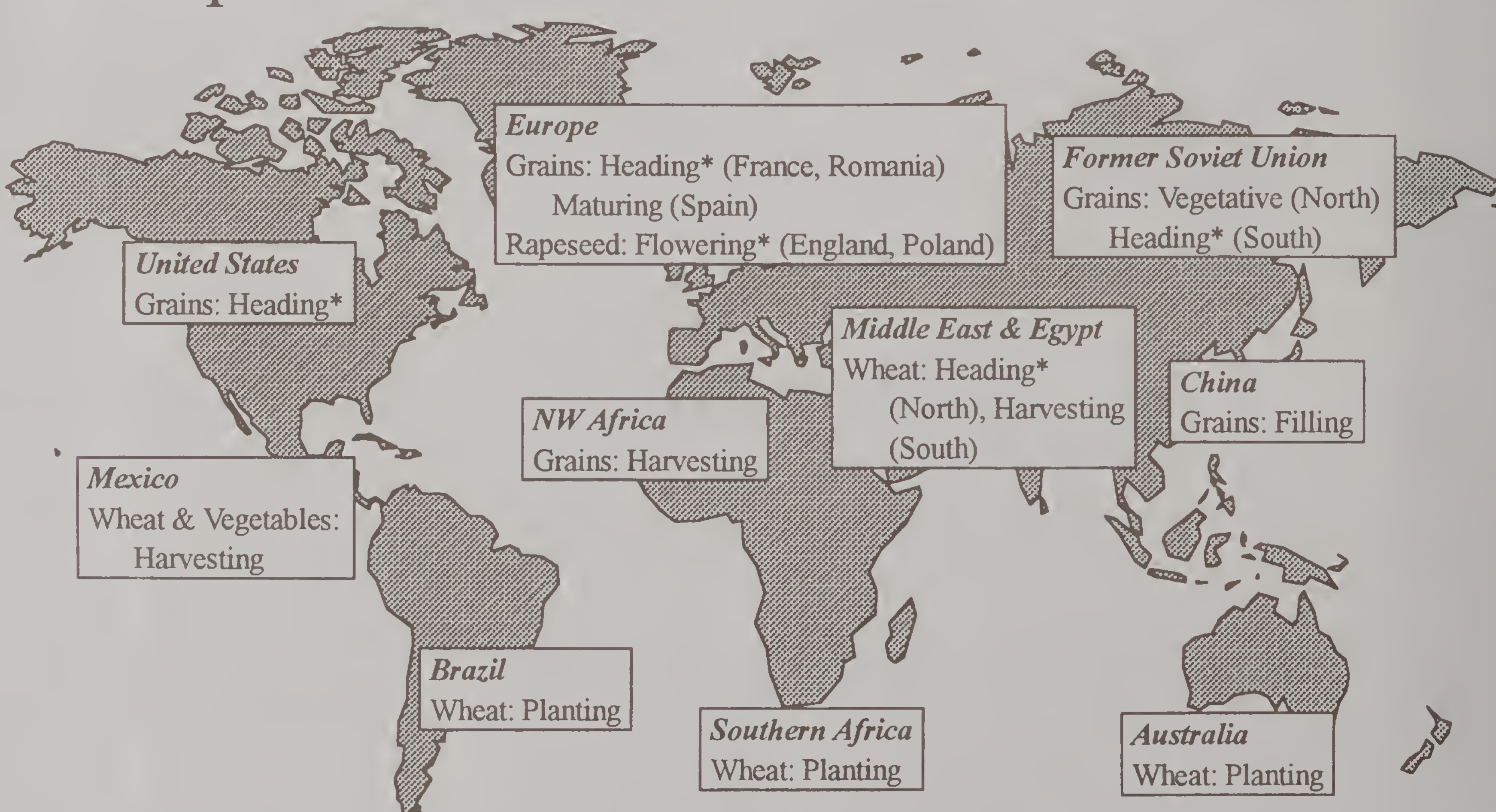
11 - AUSTRALIA
Mostly favorable harvest weather prevailed during April in cotton and sorghum areas in the east. In early May, scattered showers hampered harvests in New South Wales but improved topsoil moisture levels for wheat germination.

May Normal Crop Calendar

Summer crops



Winter crops

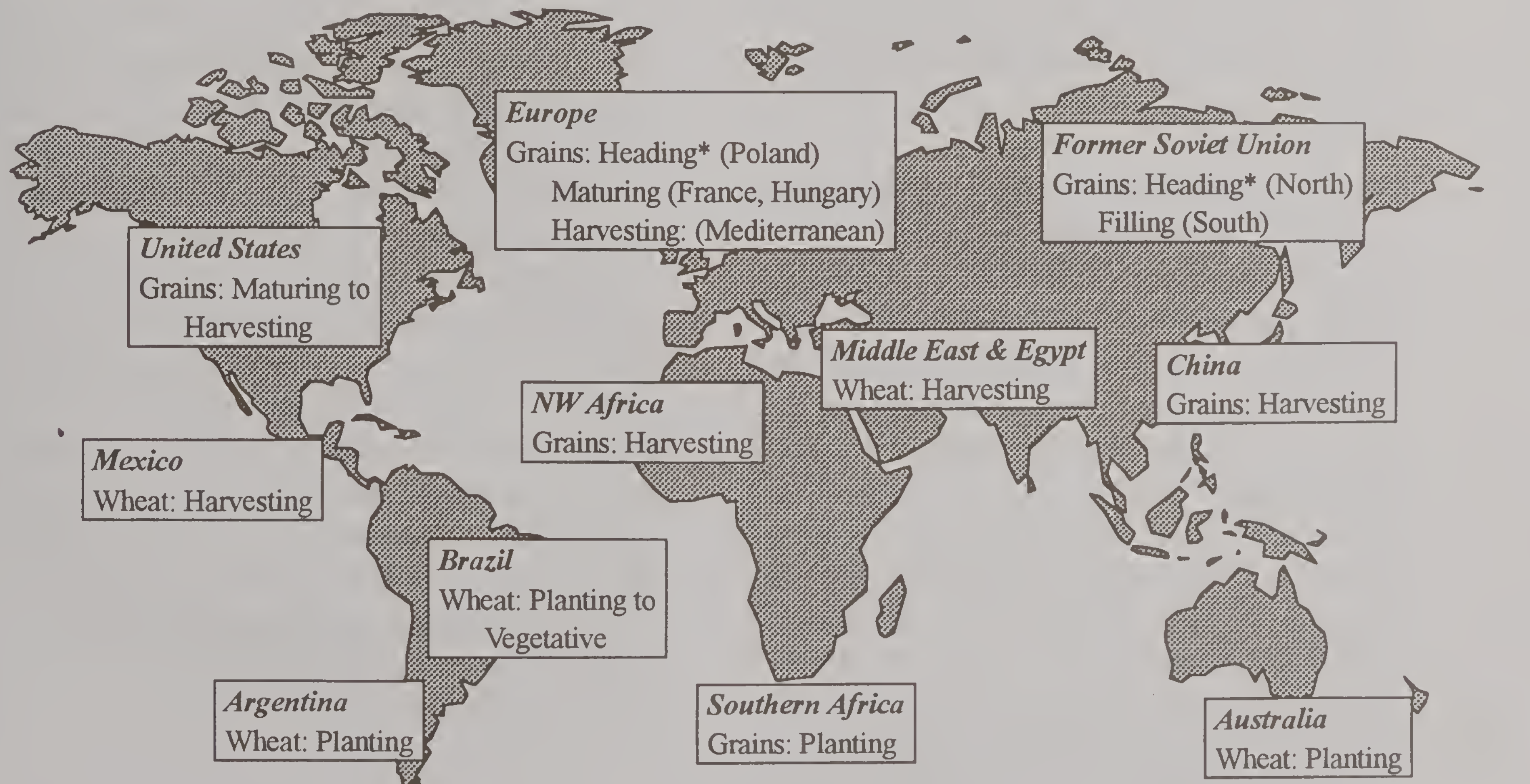


* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

June Normal Crop Calendar

Summer crops

Winter crops



* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

WEATHER BRIEFS

Canadian Prairies: Spring Planting Favored By Mild Weather

In contrast with wet and cool growing conditions experienced last spring, mostly dry, warmer-than-normal weather covered the Prairies through early May 2000. This mild weather favored field preparations for spring grain and oilseed planting and helped to warm topsoils for germination. During the week of April 30 through May 6, high temperatures ranged from the middle to upper 20's degrees C, but sub-freezing lows were still common in most growing areas. Beneficial rain the following week boosted moisture reserves from central Saskatchewan to southern Manitoba. Provincial governments report that planting is underway and that planting progress is ahead of 5-year averages in many regions. Due to winter rainfall deficits in the northern sections of Alberta, including the Peace River Valley, there is concern about insufficient topsoil moisture for crop germination. Farther east in the summer crop areas, warm, mostly dry weather also dominated crop areas of Ontario and Quebec, spurring development of vegetative winter grains. However, recent rain has improved soybean and corn prospects while aiding wheat development.

Western FSU: Spring Planting Progresses With Mild Weather

Growing conditions were less than favorable during Fall 1999 for germination and establishment of winter grains across the Ukraine. In contrast, adequate soil moisture and pre-dormancy precipitation favored establishment in Russia's North Caucasus and Central Black Soils growing regions. During April 2000, warmer-than-normal weather and timely precipitation favored post-dormancy growth and accelerated development in both the Ukraine and southern Russia. Precipitation in the amounts of 10 millimeters or greater, fell weekly during most of April in the crop areas of the Ukraine. Up to 25 millimeters fell during the last week of April in northern Ukraine. Rainfall was even more frequent and generally heavier across the North Caucasus. During April, the mild weather caused the winter grains crop stage to be ahead of normal, mostly jointing in the Ukraine and southern Russia as early as April 15. The mild conditions also allowed for early planting and germination of spring grains, sunflower, corn, and sugar beets. During May 3 and 4, night-time temperatures fell to "below freezing". Overall temperatures did not fall low enough or last for sufficient duration to threaten winter grains in the jointing stage. However, newly emerged corn and sugar beets may have been slightly damaged.

Northwest Africa: Tunisia's Crop Condition Deteriorates

Since January 1, 2000, the key component for Northwest Africa's winter grain crops has been drought in Morocco and Algeria, and increasing dryness in Tunisia. In April, rainfall increased across Northwest Africa, with some rain falling each week. Any rain that fell in Morocco or most of Algeria during this time, however, was too late to help winter grain production recover from the earlier drought conditions. Tunisia and extreme eastern Algeria faired the best in the region, receiving timely showers across their winter grain areas throughout the season. The rain in Tunisia, although minimal, was adequate to support growth. In late April and early May, hot weather following a shot of moisture prevailed across Tunisia, putting stress on winter grains and hastening maturity. Instead of benefitting the crop, the rainfall on a mature crop caused a decline in condition, promoting disease and insect pests that benefit from high temperature and humidity.

FEATURE COMMODITY ARTICLES

2000/01 World Cotton Production Down From 1999/2000 Level

World cotton area and production for the 2000/01 season depend on several factors, with cotton prices and those of competing crops playing a crucial role. Domestic and world financial condition also influence world output along with government policies and weather.

The Cotlook A-Index represents the price level of international raw cotton offered to the market on a daily basis from several cotton trading countries. Generally, a very strong direct relationship exists between cotton area and this price index for the previous year. This movement is well illustrated by Charts 1 and 2 for both area and output from 1981 to 1999. During this period area and output seem to move in tandem (one year later) with price. Output showed less of a response to price during the 1996-to 1999-period as above average yield offset area declines during two of the years.

Area shifts also depend upon the price level of other crops in relation to the price of cotton and expected profit margins in comparison to these other crops. On average, from their most recent peaks, corn, wheat, and rice, illustrated by the grain index, and soybeans illustrated by fat and oil index (Chart 3) have been good alternatives to cotton, as cotton prices have fallen faster than these crops. The relative stronger prices of competing crops point to a continued downward slide in cotton area. However, cotton prices have increased rapidly since the beginning of this calendar year. During the previous two years, prices have fallen during the same period (Chart 4). This upward movement in price could hold 2000/01 world area and production near the 1999/2000 level.

With these factors affecting production and area, preliminary indications are that world cotton production and area in 2000/01 could be about 86.0 million bales and 32.0 million hectares. This compares closely with the 32.1 million hectares for 1999/2000, but 1.3 million bales below the 87.3 million bales for 1999/2000 as lower foreign production more than offsets a larger U.S. crop.

Table 1 illustrates area, yield, and production estimates for 1989/90 through 1999/2000 and a forecast for 2000/01. The price line on the Charts 1 and 2 shows an average annual market year price beginning in 1981/82. The 1999/2000 price is an average price from August-April for 1999/2000.

The United States cotton is forecast at 19.0 million bales, up 2.0 million from 1999/2000. This estimated assumes historical average abandonment and yields. A total of 6.3 million hectares is expected to be sown for 2000/01. The Delta shows a 6-percent increase, while the Southeast region indicates a 5-percent rise from 1999/2000. Producers in the Southwest, mainly Texas and Oklahoma intend to plant 3-percent more area than last year. The western states of Arizona, California, and New Mexico are expected to increase area by 11-percent. Producers intend to plant 25-percent less Extra Long Staple than were planted in 1999/2000.

The first official USDA forecast of individual foreign country estimates for area, yield, and production will be released in July. The following paragraphs contain brief comments about prospects for the major foreign cotton producers.

China: The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) has officially forecast 2000/01 production at 15.0

million bales, a decline of 15 percent from 1999/2000, while some analysts expect production to remain flat. Both positions have merit. Few farmers could have anticipated the extreme price drops that took place this for 1999. As recently as last spring, many sources were convinced that the Chinese government would not allow a price reduction of more than 10 percent. However, prices fell as much as 40 percent in 1999 and many farmers may reassess their planting decisions for 2000. Yields are also likely to remain low as farmers commit less time and capital to a crop with declining returns.

Seed cotton prices have improved in recent months as low lint prices have triggered increased consumption. Industry reports show that the trend toward increased use of synthetic fibers has reversed itself, at least in the short term, since cotton has become much more competitive. In addition, MOA sources and anecdotal evidence suggest that many farmers have few or no alternatives to cotton as a cash crop, since much of the land currently planted to cotton is unsuited to other cash crops such as fruits and vegetables. Thus, while area is likely to decline form the current year, it is unlikely that production will fall as low as the MOA froecast.

India: Assuming a timely onset of the 2000 monsoon and normal weather during the crop season, 2000/01 cotton production is forecast at more than 12.0 million bales, well below the 1999/2000 production estimate at 12.8 million. The reason behind the drop in production is the reduced area due to continued low domestic cotton prices. Prices have declined for the second year in a row due to excess supplies and low but rising international prices.

Area planted to cotton in northern states has already declined over the past few years (from 2.07 million hectares in 1996/97 to 1.47 million hectares in 1999/2000); thus any further area decline in the region would be marginal due to the limited scope of an additional shift in cotton area to competing crops (paddy/sugarcane). In the central cotton zone cotton area is expected to expand marginally in Maharashtra, due to higher procurement prices offered under the Maharashtra state monopoly procurement scheme (15-20 percent higher than market prices), However, some cotton area in the other central zone states is expected to shift to competing crops (coarse cereals in Gujarat/ Madhya Pradesh and tobacco/chillies in southern states). The net impact will likely result in a decline in 2000 planting from the 1999 estimated planted area of 8.7 million hectares and a record 1998 area of 9.3 million hectares.

Pakistan: Lint production for the outyear is forecast below the 1999/2000 level. Area and production for 2000 are forecast to decline from this year's level as farmers shift out of cotton due high input costs and low prices combined with a return to normal yields. Current 1999/2000 farm gate seed cotton prices are about 40 percent or 10 cents per pound lower than the average 1998/99 price, despite government efforts to support prices. Alternative crops to cotton are expected to be corn, sunflower, sugarcane, and other minor crops.

Uzbekistan: Despite the Government of Uzbekistan's long-standing goal of stabilizing cotton production at roughly 4.0 million tons of seed cotton -- nearly 5.7 million bales of lint -- which has not been achieved since 1995, nor is production likely to reach the target in 2000/01. Officials have forecast area to drop 3 percent from last year, to 1.4 million hectares. Infrastructure and input problems persist, including outdated and inefficient irrigation systems, poor weed and insect control, inadequate machinery, poor crop rotation practices, and, perhaps most important, the continued widespread use of

low-quality seeds. Given the slow pace of reform and assuming normal weather, 2000/01 production is likely to fall below the 1999/2000.

Ronald R. Roberson, Cotton Chairperson
Phone: (202) 720-0879
E-Mail: roberson@fas.usda.gov

James Crutchfield, India and Pakistan Analyst
Telephone (202) 690-0135
E-mail: crutchfield@fas.usda.gov

Mark Lindeman, Uzbekistan Analyst
Telephone (202) 690-0143
E-mail: lindeman@fas.usda.gov

Paulette Sandene, China Analyst
Telephone (202) 690-0133
E-mail: sandene@fas.usda.gov

Table: 1
World Cotton Area, Yield, and Production

Year	Harvested Area 1000 hectares	Yield kilograms/ hectare	Production 1000 bales*
1989/90	31,553	550	79,676
1990/91	33,156	572	87,069
1991/92	34,787	599	95,754
1992/93	32,631	551	82,507
1993/94	30,710	546	77,051
1994/95	32,176	581	85,859
1995/96	35,936	564	93,065
1996/97	33,818	574	89,230
1997/98	33,730	591	91,629
1998/99	32,856	560	84,532
1999/2000	32,141	591	87,280
2000/01	32,000	585	86,000
5-year Avg.	33,696	576	89,147

Chart 1

World Area and A-Price Index

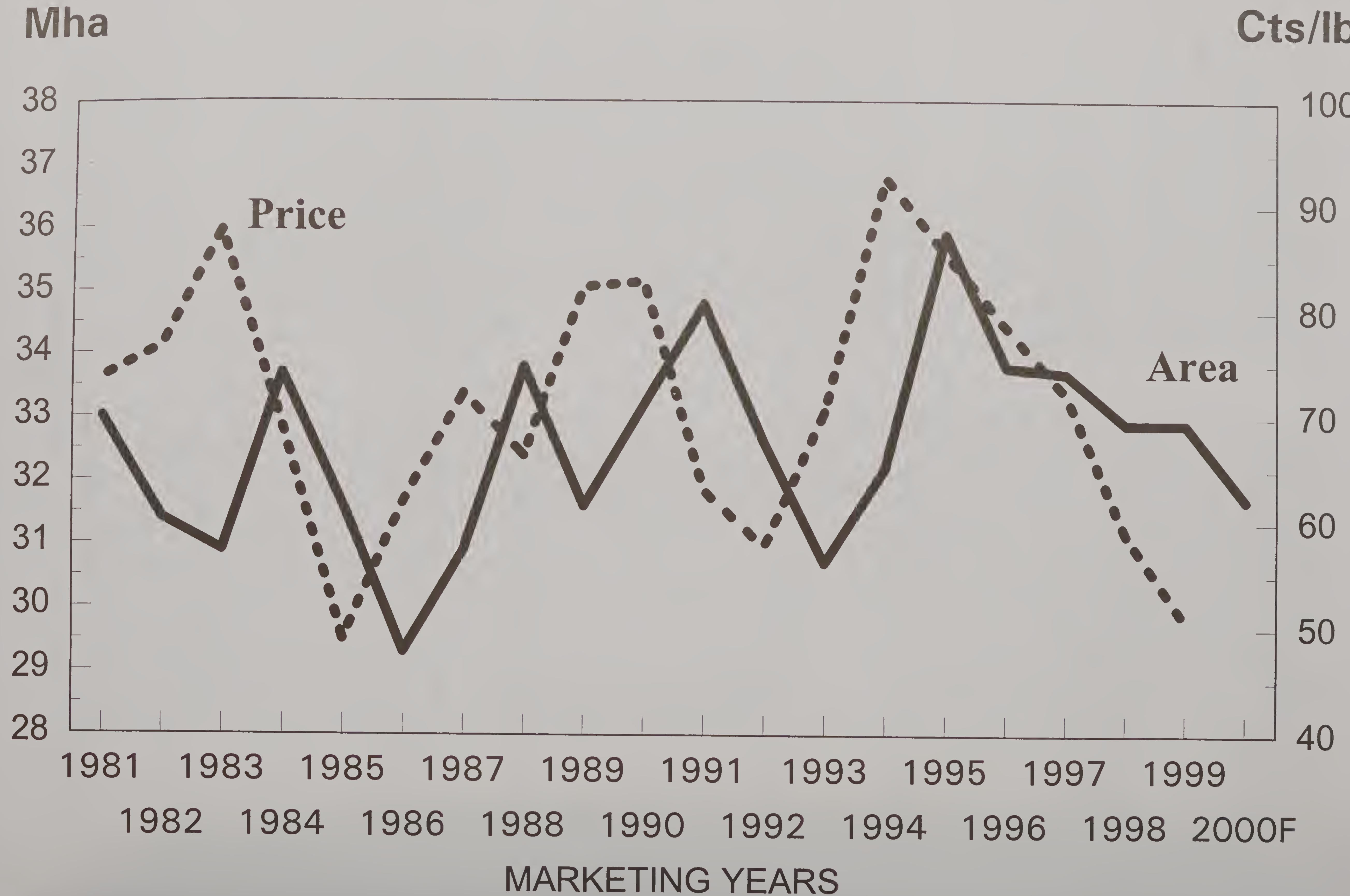


Chart 2

World Output and A-Price Index

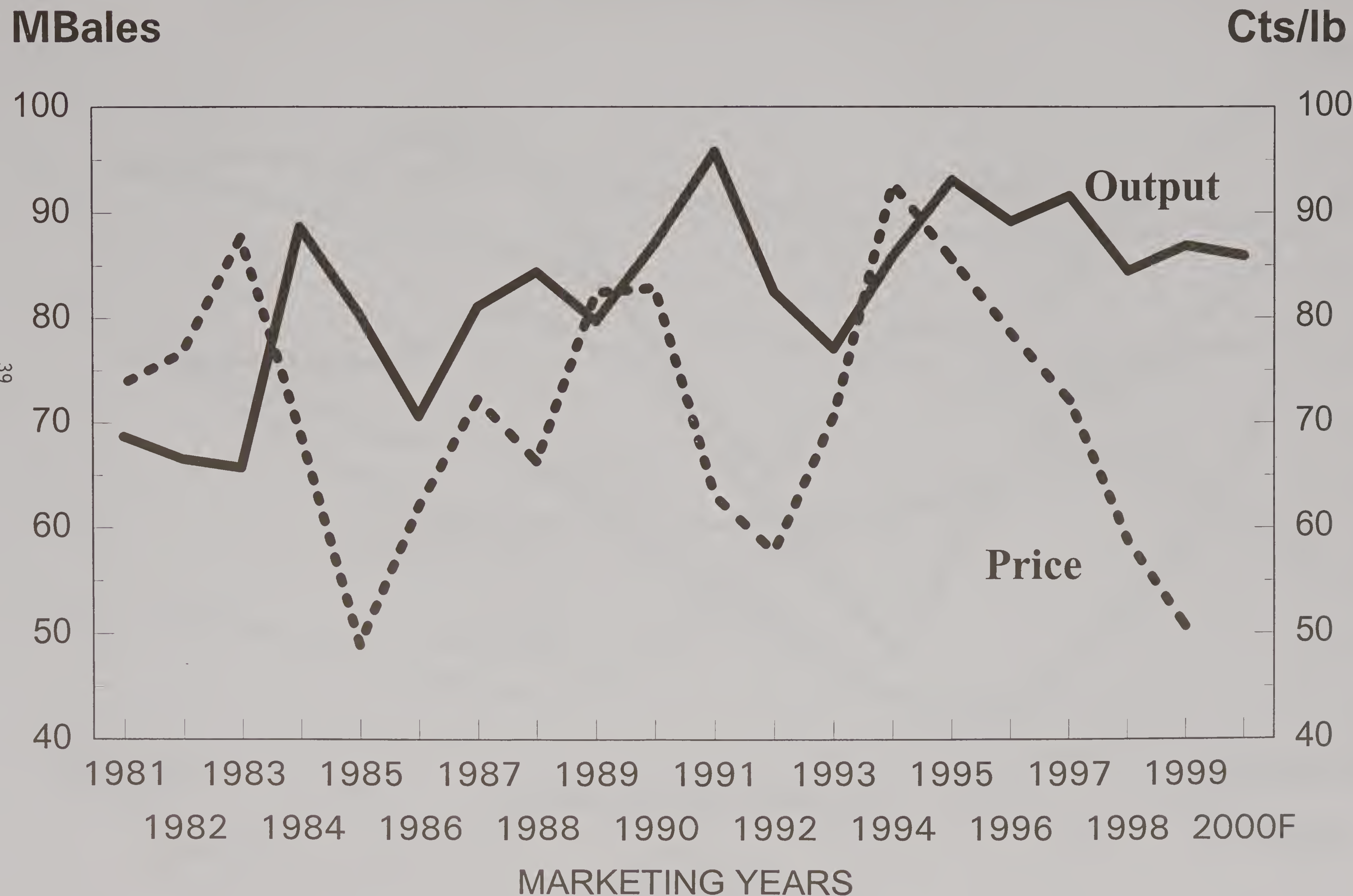


Chart 3

Commodity Indexes

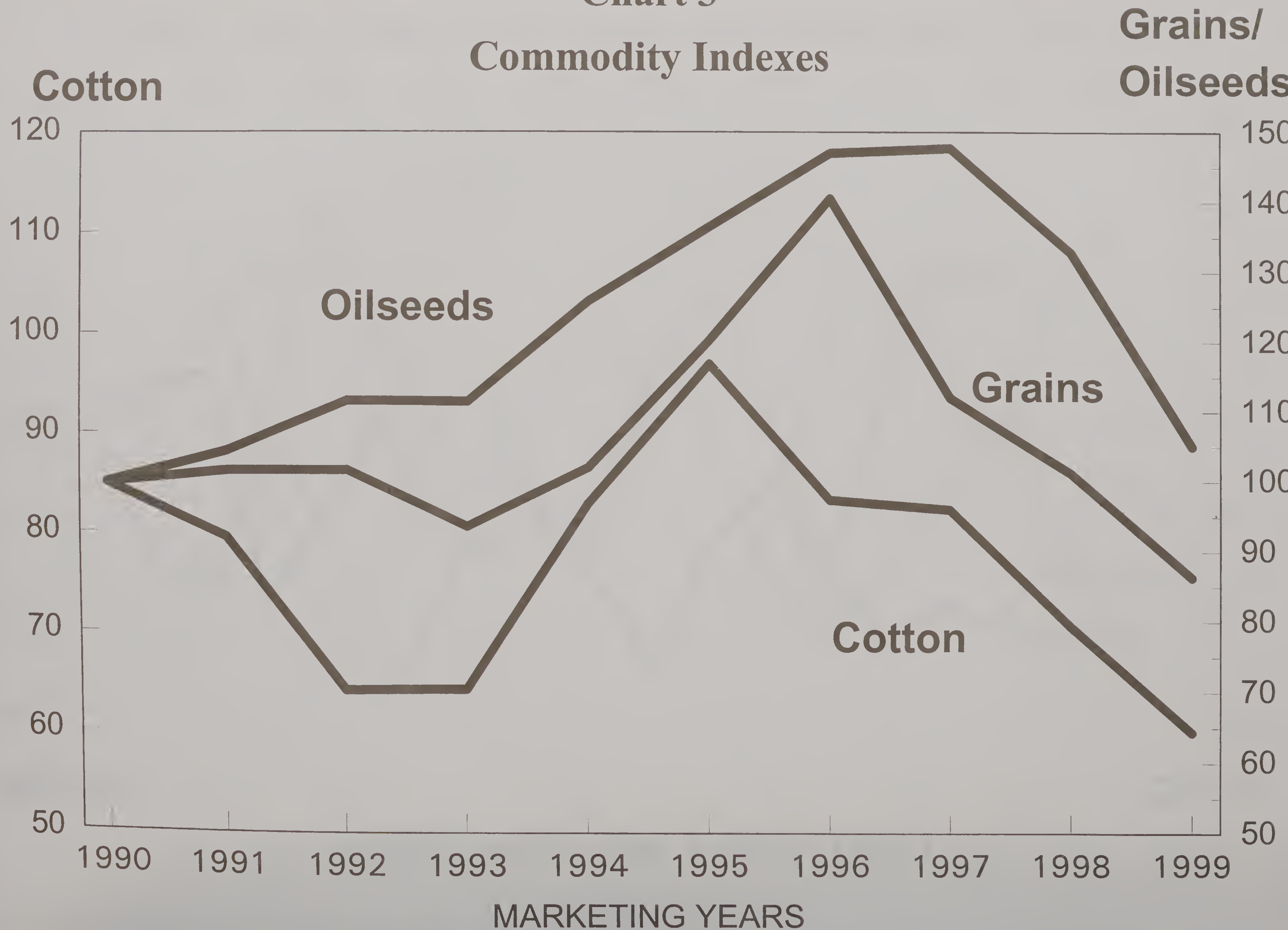
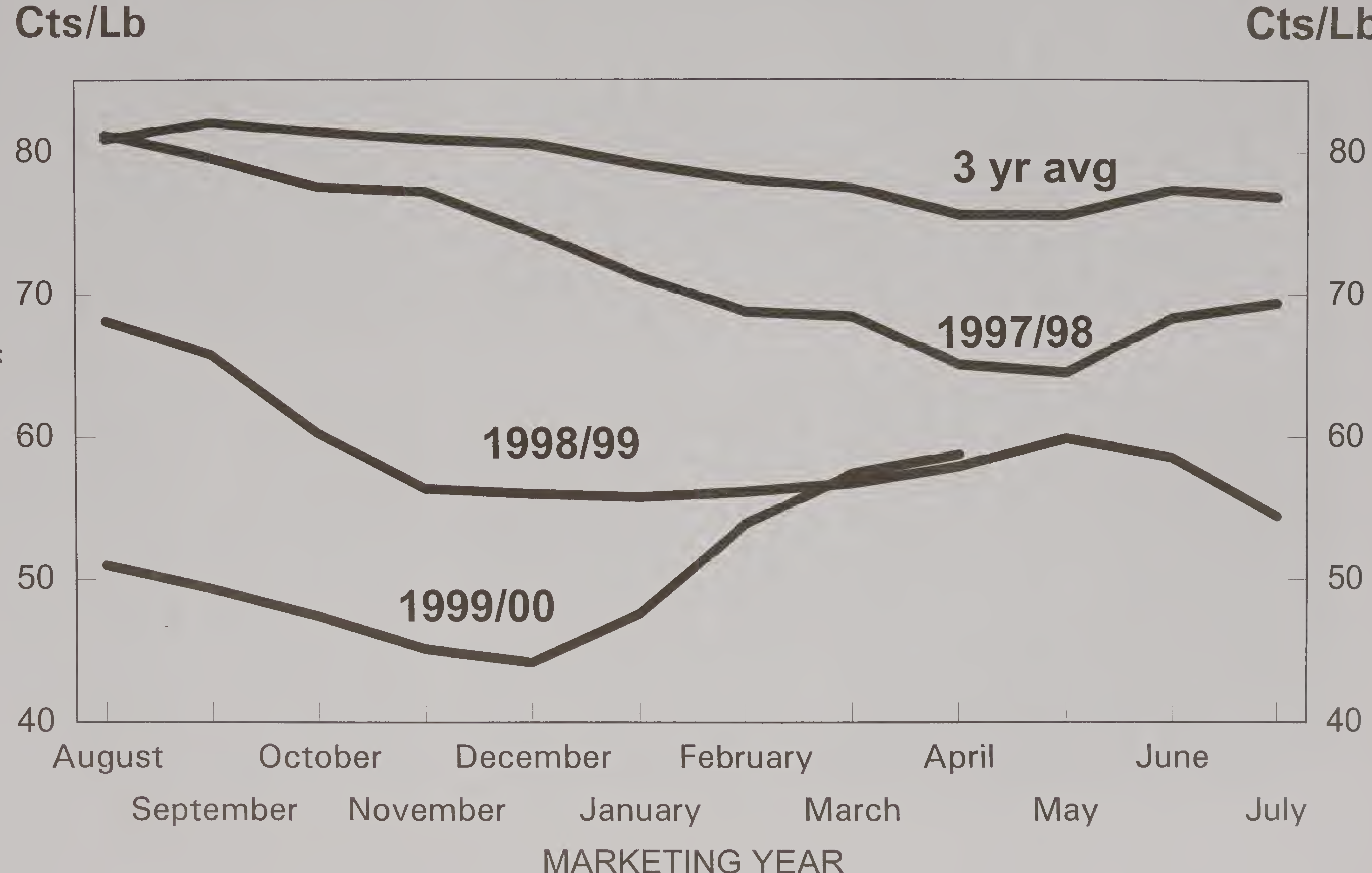


Chart 4

Cotlook A-Index



World Palm Oil Production to Increase Again in 1999/2000

World production of palm oil has continued to increase dramatically. Projected at 21.2 million tons for 1999/2000, production will be up 42 percent over the last 5 years and up 95 percent in the last 10 years. World production is dominated by two countries in the Southeast Asia region: Malaysia, which produces 50 percent of world output, and Indonesia, which produces 30 percent. After declining 4 percent in 1997/98 due to dry weather and haze from forest fires, output increases have been above trend. Output increased 13 percent in 1998/99, and is projected to increase 10 percent in 1999/2000, compared to an annualized rate of increase of 7 percent since 1989/90. Favorable rainfall in key areas assisted in increasing output during the last two years.

It is unclear how rapidly expansion will continue in the next several years. FOB prices in Malaysia for refractionated-bleached-deoderized (RBD) palm oil so far this marketing year have averaged US$328 per metric ton, lower than for any full year since 1990/91. Prices in October through December of 1998/99 exceeded US$600 per ton. The impact on output of low prices may be delayed because of the long production cycle where new plantings do not begin producing for 2.5 to 3 years and do not reach peak production for 10 years.

Output of crude palm oil in Malaysia in 1999/2000 is estimated at 10.8 million tons, up 11 percent from 1998/99. Fruit bearing area is expected to expand to 2.8 million hectares in 1999/2000, up 5 percent from 1998/99, and it is forecast by the USDA agricultural officer in Kuala Lumpur to increase a further 9 percent in 2000/01 to 3.1 million hectares.

In recent years, the Malaysian Government has encouraged publically-listed companies to form consortiums for overseas joint ventures in order to globalize Malaysia's oil palm industry. Malaysia has taken the lead in developing joint ventures in oil palm plantations with other producing countries such as Indonesia, the Philippines, Columbia, Guyana, Nigeria, and Ghana.

Indonesia crude palm oil production is forecast to increase by 10 percent to 6.4 million tons in 1999/2000 as trees planted during previous seasons start to bear fruit. This upward trend will continue in 2000/01, when expectations are that output will increase by a similar amount. Beyond 2001, production growth may slow temporarily reflecting the halt in new planting during 1998 and 1999. For the long term, sources indicate that a goal of 15 million tons of palm oil production has been set for 2012.

Little or no expansion in palm oil area has occurred since the economic crisis hit in mid-1997. The USDA agricultural officer in Jakarta forecast area planted to increase 5 percent, to 3.2 million hectares in 2000/01, due to the improved financial situation in Indonesia. Area harvested is around 65-70 percent of total area planted and is forecast by the agricultural officer to increase from 2.2 million hectares in 1999/2000 to 2.6 million in 2000/01.

After seven years of level production from 1990/91 to 1996/97, Nigerian palm oil output has begun to increase. Output, which had been about 600,000 tons, jumped to 740,000 tons in 1998/99, and is estimated at 760,000 tons for 1999/2000. Existing farms are undergoing expansion as farmers become increasingly aware of the economic potential offered by palm production. Despite constraints on funds available to producers, virtually all palm estates visited in recent field travel reported some degree of field expansion. Additionally, palm oil production has

benefitted for the second year in a row from good rainfall distribution.

Palm oil production in Columbia was favorably affected in 1998/99 by increased rainfall related to the La Nina weather phenomenon, as output increased 16 percent to 490,000 tons. With more normal conditions, output is forecast to increase just 2 percent to 500,000 tons in 1999/2000.

Over the next 3 to 5 years, palm production is forecast by some in the industry to grow at an annual rate of 3 percent. Palm oil is the only oil-bearing crop that has shown growth in production during the 1990's, but the expansion has begun to slow down. Production grew in the first eight years of the decade at an annualized rate of 8 percent.

The Thailand palm oil industry continues its expansion as a greater number of palm trees reach full maturity. Production of palm oil continues to lag consumer demand for edible oils, and Thailand uses domestically 98 percent as much as it produces. Production for 1999/2000 is estimated at 500,000 tons, up 25 percent from the drought reduced crop in 1998/99.

Cote d'Ivoire palm oil production increased 3 percent to 305,000 tons in 1998/99 and is forecast to increase to 310,000 tons in 1999/2000. More efficient management and high yields from young trees are boosting output. However, expected increased production is moderated by low yields from the large proportion of aged trees and the increasing area out of production due to replanting.

Output of palm oil in Papua New Guinea is projected at 310,000 tons for 1999/2000, up from 290,000 tons in 1998/99. Yield per hectare in Papua New Guinea is among the highest, if not the highest, in the world due to a favorable climate, the quality of seed stock, and the quality of the crop cultural practices being used.

Paul Provance, Oilseeds Chairperson
Telephone: (202) 720-0881
E-mail: provance@fas.usda.gov

WORLD PALM OIL PRODUCTION

(1,000 Metric tons)

	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 P	1999/00 F
Angola	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	52	52	52	52
Benin	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
Brazil	70	70	75	75	80	85	90	90	83	83	83
Cameroon	90	90	90	90	90	125	130	161	135	160	160
Colombia	232	250	295	321	330	370	387	440	424	490	500
Congo (Brazzaville)	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	16	17	16	16
Costa Rica	73	64	58	61	84	88	93	97	101	109	109
Cote d'Ivoire	275	278	281	293	296	286	304	285	295	305	310
Dominican Republic	9	10	12	13	14	17	19	19	12	1	2
Ecuador	132	124	138	140	166	194	220	200	225	245	275
Equatorial Guinea	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Gabon	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	4
Gambia, The	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ghana	25	24	24	24	50	74	79	83	88	95	95
Guatemala	0	6	10	16	19	23	31	36	60	84	108
Guinea	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	50	50	50
Guinea-Bissau	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	5
Honduras	73	64	65	76	73	77	88	94	105	99	109
India	0	0	5	5	10	15	20	25	30	40	45
Indonesia	2,250	2,650	2,750	3,250	3,900	4,250	4,850	5,385	5,000	5,800	6,400
Liberia	35	35	35	35	35	36	35	45	45	45	45
Malaysia	6,412	6,031	6,222	7,125	7,100	7,771	8,264	9,005	8,508	9,758	10,800
Mexico	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	7	10	12
Nigeria	500	600	630	650	600	570	590	600	650	740	760
Papua New Guinea	127	142	171	197	212	223	236	248	270	290	310
Paraguay	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3	3	3	3
Peru	25	23	25	25	30	29	29	35	35	35	35
Philippines	23	35	30	38	38	38	40	68	70	70	70
Sao Tome and Principe	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Senegal	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	6	6	6
Sierra Leone	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	46	51	51	51
Solomon Islands	17	20	20	20	20	20	20	29	29	29	29
Thailand	175	200	220	240	265	300	370	400	470	400	500
Togo	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	9	9	9	9
Venezuela	6	7	9	16	24	24	38	45	54	62	70
Zaire	123	119	110	110	110	111	112	115	125	135	145
WORLD TOTAL	10,889	11,058	11,491	13,036	13,762	14,940	16,259	17,735	17,060	19,324	21,211

P-preliminary F-forecast

May 2000

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